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SALT-II AGREEMENT OF PIVOTAL IMPORTANCE FOR DISARMAMENT

LD221331Y Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 18 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[Article by observer Yuriy Kornilov: "The Launching Platform of Disarmament"]

[Text] Curbing the arms race and eliminating the threat of nuclear war are probably mankind's most important tasks at the moment. And limiting the strategic arms race occupies a special place among the problems connected with its solution. This is a problem of vital importance not only for the successful development of relations between the USSR and the United States but also for the strengthening of peace and international security as a whole. It is natural, therefore, that attention should constantly be drawn to the Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Talks. It is also natural that the international public and press would be keenly interested in the article "The Task of Limiting Strategic Arms: Prospects and Problems" published in PRAVDA on 11 February.

Discussing and commenting on the USSR's position, prominent political and public figures and press organs in various countries note that the Soviet Union, loyal to its principled policy of peace, is continuing a firm course toward achieving progress in strategic arms limitation. This consistent, constructive line has offered opportunities to return the talks on this problem--which, as is known, have developed unevenly and have been accompanied by serious difficulties--to the fundamental directions formulated during the 1974 Soviet-American summit meetings in Vladivostok. Both sides have confirmed their intention to continue active talks in order to complete work on an agreement, which is known in the West as SALT-II.

So there are fairly good chances for an important step forward in strategic arms limitation. But efforts and, by all appearances, considerable efforts are needed to implement these chances. Although the American side has demonstrated elements of flexibility and realism during the talks, it is no secret that certain U.S. circles, expressing the aspirations of the military-industrial complex and with ties to the Pentagon and NATO, have not the slightest interest in detente and the progress of disarmament. The elaboration of the SALT-II agreement is accompanied by increasingly persistent attempts from these circles, whose influence in the U.S. congress is considerable, to intimidate Americans with the fabrication about the USSR's attempt to acquire strategic superiority over the United States and prepare a "first nuclear strike" potential. Those forces in the United States that are averse to the positive development of Soviet-American relations are seeking to make the SALT-II agreement an object of fierce domestic political struggle in order to ultimately retard and then wreck the achievement of an understanding.

There are also opponents of curbing the arms race who, on the pretext of the need to "modify" and "improve" the SALT-II agreement, make its adoption conditional on a whole series of premeditatedly unacceptable provisos and "conditions." It is announced, for example, that the United States, despite agreed restrictions, must apparently have the right to deploy long-range cruise missiles on any type of aircraft. Attempts are made to lift the restrictions on sea- and ground-based cruise missiles, increase their already agreed range and obtain a free hand in deploying this weapon. [paragraph continues]

There are also maneuvers aimed at creating loopholes that allow cruise missiles to turn up on the territory of the U.S.' NATO partners, and so on in the same vein. The "amendments" differ but in essence they are the same: all are aimed at guaranteeing clear advantages to the United States to the detriment of the Soviet Union's interests.

This approach, sober-minded observers note, has no chance of success: The Soviet Union has reaffirmed with utmost clarity that the SALT-II agreement, which is intended to establish restrictions effectively curbing the strategic offensive arms race, must be a consistent embodiment of the principle of the equality and identical security for both sides. This is the fundamental basis without which the SALT-II agreement is utterly meaningless. PRAVDA's article lets it be known that the Soviet Union rejects any attempt to depart from the accords already reached, the New York TIMES writes. Noting that certain circles in the United States would like to use the talks to win unilateral advantages from the Soviet Union, G. Mattiessen, secretary of the Committee for Peace, Disarmament and Cooperation (PRG), stresses that this position "cannot contribute to a successful completion of the Soviet-American dialog; the Soviet Union cannot seriously be expected to waive its own interests and those of world peace so that the U.S. military-industrial complex can continue the arms race." You cannot get away from the truth: Attempts to resurrect hopes of obtaining military superiority over the USSR, however persistent and whatever their origin, are absolutely futile.

Many foreign press organs, alluding to the activities of the opponents of a SALT-II agreement, note that those actions are in full accord with the general line of the Pentagon and U.S. military-industrial circles which, hiding behind the fabrication of the mythical "Soviet threat," are persistently seeking a new twist to the arms race spiral, including the nuclear missile race, and are steering a course toward developing and deploying new kinds and varieties of mass-destruction weapons. In the next fiscal year, direct U.S. military expenditure alone will reach the astronomical figure of \$117.8 billion--9.4 percent greater than in the current year. The Pentagon's plans to begin manufacturing and then deploying that sophisticated and--in the full sense of the word--inhuman weapon known as the neutron bomb among NATO forces in Europe, are giving rise to increasingly grave alarm among the international public.

Contrary to the spirit of the times, the Pentagon's desire to inflate the country's already gigantic military budget even more, and to spur on the arms race is yet another confirmation of the one-sided nature of the U.S. position. Clearly, it is difficult to match the course of the arms race with Washington's statements that the United States favors detente and a reduction in international tension. It is impossible to close off the channels for some kinds of weapons and simultaneously open them for others. It is also clear that real lasting peace and international security--in which all peoples, including, of course, the American people, are vitally interested--cannot be insured by empty words but by specific practical steps for halting the arms race and for disarmament.

All of this indicates the complexity and difficulty of the path toward real steps to curb the arms race, particularly with respect to strategic weapons, as well as the tough opposition from the enemies of detente that still needs to be overcome. Discussing the prospects for limiting strategic weapons, sober-minded politicians and public figures in various countries, including the United States, continually stress that those Americans who are steering a course toward another arms race spiral are attempting to wreck or delay a SALT-II agreement, are working against detente and are acting contrary to the national interests of the United States itself. As former Defense Department adviser H. Scoville notes with complete justification, the absence of a SALT-II agreement would be "the greatest possible catastrophe" for U.S. security.

As for the position of the Soviet Union, which consistently advocates a halt to the manufacturing of nuclear weapons by all countries and also supports disarmament, even as far as universal and complete disarmament, it has been and remains unchanged. The USSR favors the swiftest possible conclusion of a SALT-II agreement, which can serve as a launching platform at the beginning of the path toward reducing strategic weapons. Our country has done and is doing all it can to reach this agreement. And the USSR calculates that the United States, guided by a realistic approach and a sense of responsibility, will act in the same direction.

#### U.S., USSR DISCUSS ARMS LIMITATION IN INDIAN OCEAN

LD211321Y Moscow TASS in English 1304 GMT 21 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 21, TASS--The delegations of the USSR and the USA held further bilateral talks in Bern (Switzerland) from February 7 to 17 concerning arms limitation measures in the Indian Ocean. The Soviet delegation was lead by Ambassador Lev Mendelevich and the American delegation by Ambassador Paul Warnke.

The delegations continued discussing proposals made by the two sides. The discussion was frank and useful and helped the two sides understand better each other's position, thus creating a basis for further work.

A date for the next meeting is to be set by mutual agreement.

STRELNIKOV REVIEW VIEWS MIDEAST, AFRICA, SALT DEVELOPMENTS

ID211341Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Boris Strelnikov review: "The International Week"]

[Text] The international situation is a constantly developing process full of diverse events which succeed each other rapidly in various parts of the world. For all their diversity and complexity these events are the reflection of the main tendency of our time: antagonism between the forces of socialism, peace and national liberation on the one hand and the forces of imperialism, war and national oppression on the other.

Our party's Central Committee attentively monitors the development of the international situation, consistently following a course of further deepening the relaxation of international tension and implementing the foreign policy tasks set by the 25th CPSU Congress. The past week again provided examples of our party's active work in this direction.

At the meeting of representatives of the states which took part in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe the delegations of the USSR and other socialist countries advocate the adoption of a concluding document by the Belgrade forum that would promote the consolidation of detente and its filling with real content.

A meeting in the United States between representatives of the American and Soviet UN associations was devoted to questions of strengthening peace and curbing the arms race and to current issues of the development of Soviet-American relations.

Comrades L.I. Brezhnev and A.N. Kosygin cordially congratulated Urho Kekkonen in connection with his reelection as president of Finland.

In Moscow a regular session of the CEMA Executive Committee took place at which questions of the comprehensive program for further deepening and improving cooperation and developing the socialist economic integration of the CEMA member countries were examined.

In Single Formation

The Soviet program of struggle for peace finds in all its aspects a response in the hearts of hundreds of millions of people in all corners of the world. Its successful realization is to a great extent predetermined by the steady strengthening of the unity between the fraternal socialist states and the growth of their joint contribution to strengthening peace.

The people of the fraternal countries connect the successful implementation of their creative plans with the successes of the struggle for peace throughout the world. The national economy of CEMA countries does not need the stimulus of the arms race, as the economy of capitalist states does. The growth in the national income of the countries of the socialist community is achieved mainly by means of a more rational use of resources, the introduction of the latest achievements of science and technology and, of course, the steady development of socialist economic integration.

At the basis of our countries' collaboration lie treaties of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance. These treaties enshrine the will of the people of the socialist community countries for the steady strengthening of friendship and the development of their multifaceted cooperation in building the new society and for the consolidation of unity and cohesion in the joint struggle for peace and international security. These treaties have played a historic role in transforming the economy and culture of the fraternal countries on socialist principles and have consolidated and raised their prestige in the international arena.

The 30th anniversary of the signing of the first treaty on friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance between the Soviet Union and Hungary was on 18 February. This treaty stood our peoples in good stead. The new Soviet-Hungarian treaty signed in September 1967 creatively developed and deepened the fundamental provisions of the 1948 treaty and gave additional impetus to the pooling of our countries' efforts for the good and the happiness of the working people of the USSR and Hungary.

The congratulatory telegram from Comrades L.I. Brezhnev and A.N. Kosygin to Comrades Janos Kadar, Pal Losonczi and Gyorgy Lazar says: "Lasting friendship between our parties, countries and peoples, commonality of aims and unity of fundamental interests and opinions are the characteristic features of Soviet-Hungarian relations--relations of a new type, based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism."

Certain circles in the West, despite the numerous failures of such subversion in the past spare no efforts to fan slanderous, provocative campaigns against the countries of socialism.

To this end they use radio stations supported by the U.S. CIA, the espionage services of certain other capitalist states and also renegades who have been thrown out of the socialist countries. But this occupation is without prospects and, as before, is doomed to failure. History cannot be reversed. The socialist community is successfully growing stronger and developing.

#### Who Is Creating Obstacles

The growth in the prestige and attraction of the Soviet Union and other fraternal countries is primarily connected with the consistent struggle for peace throughout the world and for the elimination of hotbeds of war and tension in all parts of the world. An example of this struggle is the USSR's consistent and principled position on Near East affairs.

The last few days in Moscow have seen talks with Maj 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah. During the talk between L.I. Brezhnev and A.S. Jallud in the Kremlin it was noted that the Egyptian leadership's separate talks with Israel are seriously detrimental to the interests of the Arab peoples in their struggle to eliminate the consequences of Israeli aggression, and they hinder the establishment of a lasting and just peace in the Near East. In this connection Jallud informed Brezhnev of the decisions of the recent Algiers conference of the leaders of Libya and several other Arab countries, and also the Palestine Liberation Organization [PLO], which elaborated--in developing the decisions of the Tripoli conference--concrete measures to counter the Egyptian leadership's capitulatory course and to rally the ranks of the progressive Arab states.

The Arab people see in the Soviet Union their only ally in the anti-imperialist struggle. The Soviet proposals for a Near East settlement are well known and extremely clear. They consider the interests of all interested parties, including the PLO.

There is another approach to this problem in the United States, which, as certain American political observers now admit, has in essence rejected the Geneva conference and aided the wrecking of an all-embracing political settlement. By gambling on the separate Israeli-Egyptian talks Washington has brought matters to a dangerous impasse. It is perfectly obvious that As-Sadat's capitulatory position before the aggressor and pandering to the Zionist lobby in the United States can only lead to the weakening of Arab unity, which only plays into the hands of the aggressor.

And at a time when the talks on settling the conflict on the basis of the well-known Security Council resolutions are virtually paralysed, when the state of war between Israel and the Arab countries has not ceased, the United States decides to sell major consignments of military aircraft to Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. Naturally, this will only complicate the situation in the Near East, exacerbate the atmosphere in that region and intensify an explosive situation which may turn into a new armed conflict.

The administration decision to sell the weapons must be approved by Congress. Political observers here are now trying to guess what Congress will say. Certain commentators recall that midterm elections to Congress are scheduled for this year--a fact which plays into Israel's hands. The immense influence wielded by the Israel lobby in the American Congress is well known. In an election year, practically every Congressman tries one way or another to express his loyalty to the Zionist circles.

The Washington POST reports from Jerusalem that "Israel intends to organize a powerful campaign to influence the American Congress." Tel Aviv, according to the newspaper, will try to extract every possible advantage for itself from Washington's decision to sell aircraft to Egypt and Saudi Arabia, to "harden its position at the peace talks" and in particular to demand the retention of Israeli military airfields and military bases in occupied territory. And whatever propaganda may now be made of Israel's displeasure with the White House decision, one thing is clear: This decision was not made in favor of the Arab countries and was not designed to advance a political settlement in the Near East but to create one more obstacle in the path of its achievement.

The U.S. decision to sell military aircraft to Near Eastern countries again demonstrated that Washington's practical deeds diverge from its recent assurances on the desire to limit the supply of American arms to centers of tension.

A broad stream of American weapons is also flowing through intermediaries to Somalia, whose troops have invaded Ethiopian territory and are fighting there. According to the reports of Western correspondents, plans call for the delivery, in the near future, of the latest arms to Somalia from American military bases located in the FRG. According to the French newspaper LE MATIN, American tanks, armored cars and military transports have already arrived in Mogadiscio from the FRG and Italy. The other day Kenyan fighters intercepted an Egyptian military transport over Kenyan territory and forced it to land; the plane was headed for Somalia and shells and explosives were found on board.

The interests of peace in Africa demand that Somali troops leave Ethiopian territory. Only then can the atmosphere for peace talks be created. This would be in accordance with the aims and principles of the UN Charter and also with the decisions of the OAU.

#### Opponents of Detente

It has been estimated that approximately \$400 billion was spent on arms throughout the world last year. This is a staggering figure. So many schools, hospitals, houses could have been built and the living conditions of so many underprivileged people could have been improved. But this is only one side of the question. The other, the main side lies in the fact that the accumulation of weapons and the development of new types of arms poisons the international atmosphere and generates mutual distrust and the danger of nuclear catastrophe.

Practical measures for halting the arms race and moving on to real disarmament are now acquiring increasingly great significance. Precisely these questions have, for objective reasons, been placed at the center of international life, and the prospects for the further development of mankind depend to a considerable extent on how they are resolved. Therefore the interest of the world public in the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks between the USSR and United States is fully understandable.

The history of these talks is well known. Thanks to the USSR's consistent constructive line and also to the elements of flexibility and realism shown by the American side, it was possible to get the talks off the ground and to again address those fundamental salients which were determined jointly in Vladivostok and concretized during subsequent discussions. It seemed that the green light had at last been given to the reaching of agreement.

However, such a development of events does not suit the Pentagon and the U.S. military-industrial complex, which openly oppose any agreements with the USSR. They are now trying to hold up and, if successful, to completely wreck an understanding on strategic arms limitation. They have become particularly active at a time when prospects of concluding such an agreement were improving.

Working as a PRAVDA correspondent in Washington I have often witnessed the "horror shows" which the Pentagon "strategists" stage for the television cameras. Pointing to tabulations and diagrams, they hold forth on the "Soviet military threat" and estimate aloud how many lives would be taken by a "first strike" and how many people would perish in a "retaliatory strike" and so forth. I have kept a cutting from the Washington STAR, which after one of these shows wrote: "They inundated the audience and the television viewers with figures of megatons and deaths just as though it was a matter of goals scored in a hockey match."

Why is this being done? In order to undermine the chances of concluding an agreement on strategic offensive arms limitation or at least to achieve unilateral advantages for the United States and to free its hands to put new types of weapons into production.

The U.S. opponents of detente do not care about peace. Neither do they care about the fate of their own people on whom they would like to foist new burdens in the arms race and the retribution for nuclear insanity. Attempts to achieve military superiority over the USSR are hopeless. U.S. Defense Secretary Brown was forced to state fairly recently that "an approximate strategic nuclear balance exists at present between the two powers. Neither side has any military advantage...."

Such are the facts. But the opponents of detente do not care for the facts. The other day W. Brock, chairman of the Republican Party National Committee and another prominent figure of the same party, R. Ellsworth, demanded another increase in military spending, of \$2-3 billion. Literally the next day Rear Adm S. Swartztrauber asked businessmen to cough up the money to modernize the navy.

In addition to those who openly support the arms race, there are people in the United States who do not openly oppose a Soviet-American understanding but who, in fact, strive in every way to create obstacles to its achievement. This is done under the pretext of "improving" the draft agreement. In fact these people would like to gain advantages for the United States prejudicial to the Soviet Union's security interests. The Soviet side has frequently stressed that there must be no illusions about the fact that the USSR will not agree to agreements which would give unilateral advantages to the other side.

The enemies of the relaxation of international tension and the advocates of the arms race must be repulsed. The immediate conclusion of a new agreement on strategic offensive arms limitation would be of great significance. The Soviet Union continues to do everything necessary for this and believes that the United States will also act in the same direction.

#### U.S.-EEC TRADE WAR FORCES DECISION TO REDUCE BLOC TRADE

LD201419Y Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 15 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[NOVOSTI correspondent Ye. Filatov report: "The Trade War Between the EEC and the United States"]

[Text] The Hague--The trade differences between the EEC countries and the United States did not arise suddenly. Since the foundation of the EEC in 1957, trade between the United States and the then "six" has been characterized by constant growth. Europe was just standing on its feet and was naturally interested in cheap American goods. Trade barriers were therefore removed in order to make the European market more attractive to the United States.

However, as the West European countries developed production of their own goods, their costs were reduced and their positions in the international market grew stronger. Thus, by 1972 the six Common Market countries were exporting goods to the United States worth 8,321 million accounting units. In turn the United States was sending industrial and agricultural products worth 8,585 million units to Europe. Thus an approximate balance was established in trade between the United States and its European partners.

Striving to protect its economy from subversion by foreign goods, the United States began to erect a restraining fence, primarily by introducing a special permit system, establishing customs prices and norms for packaging, labeling and so forth.

Sometimes these attempts took on a laughable nature. As the newspaper of the Dutch business circles HANDELSBLAD wrote, "American customs leads in its refinement to fantastic situations." Thus, it demanded that the contents of the package correspond to the description on the label. The Americans once returned a large consignment of French canned food simply on the grounds that the plate painted on the label did not, alas, turn up in the tin with the beans and sausages.

The Dane Olaf Gundelan, member of the EEC's European Commission, visited the United States. He had talks with representatives of the American Government and with trade and industrial circles to prepare the way for talks on removing the protectionist measures regarding West European goods. As a result he gained the impression that in the near future American exporters would become more offensive and that there would be no question of any concessions from the United States.

At present the EEC's trade deficit with the Americans totals \$10 billion. Hopes that equality might be reached in the foreseeable future are extremely slight. In particular, the West Europeans have not reached an understanding with their overseas trade partners on settling the question of steel exports. Everything has been reduced to mutual recriminations.

On 15 January talks began in Geneva between the 93 GATT member countries. The timetable of their series of meetings should end in the summer with a joint agreement regulating international trade. Primarily this agreement should be aimed at eradicating non-tariff restrictions. However, as the West European press notes, an even bigger question is whether the Americans will agree to this. They suggest that the talks will be of a fairly complex nature and that it will hardly be possible to draw up an appropriate agreement in the next 6 months.

But meanwhile the EEC is hurrying to adopt measures to protect its market. Thus, in the second half of January the European Commission proclaimed its intention to reduce imports of several types of steel from Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, the GDR, Japan, Canada and others. This decision states unambiguously that in the trade war with the United States the EEC would like to maintain its positions by restricting trade with other countries, primarily socialist countries. However, the experience of international economic relations has frequently shown that the adoption of any one-sided measures does not resolve, but only deepens the problems. International trade relations demand an international approach.

#### NEUTRON BOMB BLURS DISTINCTION OF CONVENTIONAL, NUCLEAR ARMS

LD171315Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[Article by Vitaliy Korionov: "Organize Efforts"]

[Text] In an interview on West German radio North Atlantic Alliance Secretary General J. Luns made a statement which is bound to attract the attention of all who cherish peace. Luns declared that NATO already possesses "one variety" of the neutron weapon. "We have in our tactical nuclear weapons arsenal," he added, "a nuclear-armed shell which, because of its powerful radiation, is very dangerous to the civilian population." Here we have yet another confirmation of the NATO ringleaders' sinister designs. The peace-loving forces' resolute rebuff to the imperialist nuclear bomb maniacs, who want to accustom the peoples to the idea of the possibility of using nuclear weapons, has forced the militarists to seek ways around the problem. Thus the neutron weapon was born in the inner sanctum of the Pentagon. Its creators have been trying to depict it as virtually "innocuous" and even "humane." The plan was surreptitiously to remove the distinction between conventional and nuclear weapons.

However, the deception was exposed. All who cherish peace are saying a determined "no" to the neutron bomb. As for the Soviet Union, it is resolutely opposed to the creation of the neutron bomb. The USSR has made an appeal to the Western powers on the mutual renunciation of its production. The question is stated with utmost clarity--there is no room for misinterpretation.

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The movement against the creation of neutron weapons has quickly become worldwide. This was reaffirmed, in particular, by the international conference for peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean which ended in Athens the other day. The conference clearly stated that there can be no justification for the production of the neutron bomb.

The adherents of the inhuman weapon are maneuvering. The Pentagon generals state that, since it is proposed to deploy the neutron weapon in Western Europe, it is for the governments of this area to have the final say on the production and deployment of the weapon. But West European ruling circles, frightened of their peoples, are motioneing to Washington: The neutron bomb is Washington's, they say, let it decide.... J. Luns' statement disperses the fog. It is evidence of action on the part of the NATO bosses.

"Bar the way to the killer-bomb!"--this is the demand of the peoples. Everything must be done to frustrate the very dangerous designs of the enemies of peace.

FRG'S MOELLEMANN, OTHERS CRITICIZED FOR BACKING NEUTRON BOMB

LD201354Y Moscow TASS in English 1325 GMT 20 Feb 78 LE

[Text] Moscow, February 20, TASS--TASS political commentator Yuriy Kornilov writes:

The voice of Juergen Moellemann, representative of the group of the Free Democratic Party in the Bundestag on questions of defence policy, has of late been sounding loud in the chorus of supporters of neutron weapons who are not numerous but noisy enough. In a recent interview with the West German newspaper BILD ZEITUNG, he said that the FRG "cannot refuse to accept neutron weapons". And according to the DPA, Moellemann explained last Sunday that the group of the Free Democratic Party in the Bundestag is ready to adopt the decision "in favour of neutron weapons".

As to the attitude of the world public, above all the European public, to the Pentagon's plans connected with production and deployment of neutron weapons, it is well known. Prominent political leaders in many countries, in the FRG, too, and the press note with good ground that such a step would mean serious setback for the trend for detente, would mean the beginning of new costly and extremely dangerous spiralling of the arms race. Mr Moellemann's statements, coming one after another, are, obviously, at variance with the spirit of the time. Then how he explains or at least tries to explain his stand?

Declaring for deployment of neutron weapons in Western Europe, Moellemann, according to the DPA report, declares that deployment of these weapons should be linked with the talks on mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe: If progress is not reached at the talks, the NATO troops will get the neutron bomb. What can be said concerning this? It is well-known that it is not at all the Soviet Union that is to blame for the lack of progress at the Vienna talks. The Soviet Union holds the consistently constructive stand at the talks. On the other hand, it is also well-known that it is precisely the Western countries that stubbornly attempt in Vienna to impose on socialist states their scheme that would operate in one direction only, for ensuring self-seeking advantages for the West. So if Mr. Moellemann wishes to make claims to someone concerning the progress of the Vienna talks, he should address such claims not to the Soviet Union and in any case he should not threaten the Soviet Union with neutron weapons.

This approach, that is absolutely unjustifiable, cannot influence the position of the Soviet Union that protects its lawful interests, but can only seriously complicate the talks in Vienna. For it is absolutely obvious that it is impossible to proclaim the striving to reduce armaments and at the same time to threaten the partners at the talks with the neutron bomb.

Mr. Moelleman states that neutron weapons, don't you see, will increase NATO's "capacity for deterrence". This is not a new thesis. In the cold war years, the course at "detering" the USSR was attempted by many supporters of the notorious "power politics". And it is well-known how this ended. The adherents of such a course found themselves outside the political life. And now Mr. Moelleman tries to "deter" the USSR with the new type of weapons created by the Pentagon. But he should take into consideration at least the statement of the Federal Secretary of the Social Democratic Party of Germany Egon Bahr who declared with good reasons in his article "Neutron weapons and disarmament" that was published on February 4 by the newspaper FLENSBURGER TAGEBLATT: "The entire historic experience shows that no weapon has yet been invented which would not be soon acquired by the enemy."

It is not yet late to take measures to block the road to the new direction of the nuclear arms race with all the dangerous consequences that can follow. To say a resolute "no" to neutron weapons means to strengthen peace, to consolidate the detente in Europe and beyond it. And those Western leaders, who, like Mr. Moelleman, proclaim the neutron bomb to be a remedy from the mythical "Soviet menace" rush the world in the opposite direction.

UK PRIME MINISTER HIT FOR CRITICIZING USSR ON NEUTRON BOMB

LD222052Y Moscow in Polish to Poland 1700 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Viktor Glazunov commentary: "Once More on the Neutron Weapon"]

[Text] I was prompted to write on the subject once more by the speech made in the British Parliament by Prime Minister James Callaghan, Viktor Glazunov writes. This speech was visibly intended to appease the justly alarmed population of that country in connection with the prospects concerning the neutron bomb. It would appear that the bomb is not so terrible after all and the heart of the matter lies simply in Soviet propaganda. It would appear that the Soviet Union wittingly carries out a propaganda campaign against the neutron bomb only to divert public attention from other dangerous weapons.

What can one say on the subject? At the very least that this is a fully conscious distortion both of the essence of the matter and of the Soviet stance.

A great deal has been said about the dangerous nature of neutron bomb, not only in the Soviet Union but also in the West, including the United States. It is significant that the supporters of the neutron bomb themselves say that it is the best weapon produced by them for many years. As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, it opposes not only the neutron bomb: The Soviet Union does not divert public attention from other dangerous types of weapons, but on the contrary it constantly draws the attention of Western powers to this problem.

After all the British prime minister cannot ignore the fact that the Soviet Union did propose a radical remedial measure in the form of a ban on production of all types of nuclear weapons and the gradual elimination of their stocks.

Even before that, the Soviet Union had proposed a ban on the production of new types and systems of mass annihilation weapons. And if one wanted to go back to the roots, one must recall that immediately after the creation of the atomic bomb by the Americans, it was precisely the Soviet Union which tabled at the UN a draft of an international convention on banning nuclear weapons. Owing to the lack of response from the West the Soviet Union was forced to accept the atomic challenge of the United States.

But the Soviet Union did not cease to struggle to defend mankind against the danger of a nuclear disaster. One could mention many other Soviet initiatives aimed at achieving this end. These proposals are well known to world public opinion and they are, of course, also known by the British prime minister whose attempts to cast a shadow on the Soviet stance are obviously meant as propaganda. Unfortunately this propaganda is not intended to check the arms race but to speed it up.

#### UN COMMITTEE SUPPORTS PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

LD210818Y Moscow TASS in English 0812 GMT 21 Feb 78

[Text] New York, February 21, TASS--The general debate ended in the scientific-technical subcommittee of the United Nations committee for the peaceful uses of outer space. It brought out the interest of the states in the further exploration of outer space for peaceful purposes.

The envoys of many countries in their speeches highly assessed the latest success of Soviet cosmonautics, the experiment with the use of the Progress 1 transport craft and the long flight of the Salyut-6-Soyuz-27 space complex.

In the debate the necessity was stressed of developing cosmonautics with the use of artificial earth satellites, including those having nuclear power facilities on board, for the sake of successful peaceful exploration of outer space. It was emphasized that research in such fields as near-earth space, cosmic biology and medicine, cosmic meteorology, study of the natural resources of the earth, produced big advantage to all peoples.

Extension of international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space was supported by the representatives of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, and also the delegations of the United States, France, Italy, Austria, Turkey, the Philippines, India, Indonesia, Colombia, Pakistan, Iraq, Bangladesh and other countries.

Through its cosmic achievements the USSR makes a big contribution to the exploration of outer space for peaceful purposes, to the further development of international scientific-technical cooperation in the exploration of outer space, academician Yevgeniy Fyodorov, the head of the Soviet delegation, said in a TASS interview. These achievements broaden the vistas of science and produce a tangible benefit to all mankind.

SECRETARY BROWN NOTES 'GROWING SOVIET MENACE' IN ASIA

LD221444Y Moscow TASS in English 1430 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

["Dangerous Plans"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, February 22, TASS--The U.S. secretary of defence, Harold Brown, stated, addressing the International Affairs Council in Los Angeles, that the United States planned to reinforce its strategic forces in Asia and to strengthen its Pacific fleet. Explaining this step, he referred to the growing Soviet military menace in this region.

Commenting on the statement of the head of the Pentagon, many observers link it with the recently announced plans of the United States to form some sort of "shock units," comprised of army and Marine divisions, whose main task would be to intervene with armed force in cases when the "interests of the United States are threatened." It is noted that although these units are designed, first and foremost, to interfere in the event of "emergency circumstances" in the affairs of the Middle Eastern oil-producing countries (which was in his time advocated by the ex-Secretary of State Kissinger), they must at the same time, and Brown's statement confirms this, help to increase the U.S. military presence in Asia and in the Pacific Ocean.

The plans of strengthening the U.S. strategic forces in Asia, announced by Harold Brown, signify, above all, the strengthening of the aggressive CENTO and ANZUS blocs, in which the Pentagon plays the main role, and expansion of the American war bases already existing in this region. Today, as it is known the Pentagon's strongpoints exist in Japan, on Diego Garcia, at Simonstown, on the Island of Al-Masirah, on the coast of Australia, etc.

YOUNG'S OPINIONS OF ARMS FOR AS-SADAT CONSIDERED

LD230045Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Mr Young, the permanent U.S. representative at the United Nations, has said: I believe that Israel's security depends on As-Sadat's remaining in power. And since this is the case, Mr Young thinks that U.S. arms will be sold only to consolidate the position of the Egyptian president. These are the exact words of the permanent U.S. representative.

It is clear that this frankness in evaluating the policy of a leader of a foreign country is not an ordinary thing, not even for American officials. Yet what is most astonishing in this is that these statements expressed the U.S. attitude toward the leader of an Arab country which until recently was a major bastion for Arabs in their just struggle against the Israeli aggressors and their imperialist protectors. However, President as-Sadat's policy made the U.S. promote Egypt to the rank of best friend and most loyal ally in the affairs of the Middle East and Africa and put Egypt on the same plane as the Israeli aggressors, who are the loyal guardians of the colonialist interests of U.S. imperialism.

This and nothing else is what made the United States decide to sell arms to President as-Sadat. Why not? Did he not swear to Washington that if Egypt receives U.S. arms it would not use them against Israel? From all this one concludes that the main front of struggle now for President as-Sadat is not Israel, or how can one understand what the U.S. diplomat said in justifying the need to sell fighters to Egypt? He said: We should look at this sale not from the point of view of Egyptian-Israeli relations but from the point of view of Egypt's attitude to African problems.

#### POSSIBILITY OF U.S. AIR BASE IN SINAI REPORTED

LD221250Y Moscow TASS in English 1239 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington, February 22, TASS--The U.S. administration is examining the possibility of building a U.S. air base in the Israeli-occupied Sinai Peninsula, the U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT weekly, which is close to the Pentagon, reports. The weekly notes that the base is to be built with the aim of guaranteeing Israel's security.

#### MIAMI PAPER CITED ON U.S. WEAPONS SPENDING

LD221145Y Moscow TASS in English 0955 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington, February 22, TASS--The permanent stepping up of the arms race by the Pentagon, appropriation of billions of dollars on the manufacture of sophisticated types of mass destruction weapons to the detriment of social problems is a source of mounting wrath among the widest circles of the American public. The Florida newspaper Miami NEWS describes the permanent increase in the military budget of the USA as a militaristic madness.

The newspaper notes that only 30 percent of the military budget of the USA is spent on ensuring the defence of the country itself, while the remaining 70 percent is spent on "overseas operations." The American troops, the newspaper Miami NEWS notes, are scattered all over the world. It is absolutely incomprehensible why, for example, the (?U.S.) troops are stationed in South Korea now.

The Florida newspaper notes that the USA has started the construction of the system of the newest "trident" submarines, is moving towards the development of the neutron bomb and cruise missiles. The cost of new systems of weapons is incessantly growing. Thus, it was expected, for example, that each Trident submarine costs (?723) million dollars, now it turns out that it will cost 1,200 million dollars. A total of 47 systems of weapons are being now designed according to the Pentagon orders. The administration, the newspaper notes, as a matter of fact gives the military carte blanche.

The Miami NEWS reasonably asks when will the USA start transferring to peace-time economy and lay emphasis not on the export of guns, but on the export of butter, when Washington will start reducing its huge arsenal of weapons? The American newspaper concludes that it is high time to consider the problem of national security of the USA from the viewpoint of the well-being of the whole nation, and not in the sense of how many Americans will remain alive after the first nuclear strikes.

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HOUSE COMMITTEE HEARS VANCE ON U.S. FOREIGN AID PROGRAM

LD221342Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0907 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington--TASS correspondent Vitaliy Gan reports:

U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance explained on Tuesday in the House International Relations Committee the government program on so-called aid to foreign states.

The secretary of state announced that the administration is planning to expand to this end in fiscal 1979 by almost \$9.5 billion. International financial organizations, such as the International Monetary Fund, the Inter-American Development Bank and World Bank, which are under the complete control of Washington, will receive \$3.5 billion.

In his defense of the foreign aid program, which is becoming more and more unpopular among Americans, the secretary of state said directly that it represents one of the "most important and effective instruments" for the advancement of U.S. foreign policy and strategic interests abroad.

Vance did not give a concrete list of the countries that receive American aid. However, to judge from a statement made by the U.S. International Development Association, this list includes odious repressive regimes who mercilessly trample upon the most elementary human rights. Thus, in particular, the administration is asking \$336 million from Congress for economic and military supplies for the rotten Seoul regime.

Latin American states, including the repressive regimes of Paraguay, Guatemala, Nicaragua and other "torture-chamber" countries, will be given a total of \$432 million, which will be spent on the acquisition of American arms and economic deliveries.

As always in the past, a large portion of the appropriations will go to Tel Aviv. Washington will give Israel almost \$1.8 billion which amounts to encouraging the Israeli expansionists. Of this sum \$1 billion are intended for the purchase of the latest American arms. The administration is asking \$957 million to support President as-Sadat's capitulationist course; Egypt is to spend it on military as well as economic purposes.

NEW YORK CENTER FOR AMERICAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP OPENS

LD181010Y Moscow TASS in English 0911 GMT 18 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 18, TASS--The new centre of the New York branch of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship opened here. The ceremony of the opening was attended by representatives of the New York public, of progressive black people's organizations, working-class youth and students, guests from other American citizens.

The opening of the center is an important event in the organization's activity, R. Morford, the executive director of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, said at the function. It shows that the number of the Soviet Union's friends is growing not only in New York but also all over the country.

The activists of the New York branch plan to mount expositions in the new centre, to hold symposiums and seminars and shows of Soviet documentary and feature films about the life of the Soviet people.

HONECKER STRESSES DETENTE, GDR-FRG RELATIONS IN SPEECH

LD221101Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Text] Berlin, 18 February (TASS)--The GDR people are successfully implementing their republic's development program adopted by the Ninth Congress of the Social Unity Party of Germany [SED]. E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee, said when addressing a Berlin conference of the SED Central Committee Secretariat and the first secretaries of SED regional organizations. He dwelt on the main tasks facing party members in the work ahead in implementing the decisions of the Ninth Party Congress.

Thanks to the program adopted at the Ninth SED Congress our party has a clear Marxist-Leninist orientation in its future activity. The GDR citizens' belief in the policy of the SED is unshakable because they are convinced every day that the decisions of the Ninth Congress are becoming reality.

We are in favor of detente and our foreign policy, corresponding to our class duty, will always be a peace-loving policy.

The GDR is fulfilling its historic mission in union with the USSR and the other socialist community states, E. Honecker continued. Our fraternal union is firm and indissoluble and insures the GDR a clear future.

In connection with the tremendous successes of the countries of the socialist camp, aggressive imperialist circles in the West have recently sharply increased their slanderous campaign against the Soviet Union, GDR and other socialist states, E. Honecker noted. These circles want to exacerbate the situation, poison the atmosphere in relations among states, wreck bilateral and multilateral treaties and undermine the security and cooperation of European states. Certain forces in the FRG are striving particularly actively toward this.

We will be acting correctly if, in our efforts to strengthen worker-peasant power, we constantly take into consideration the fact that because of its anti-communist stance it will continue to be hard for the FRG to become reconciled to the existence of the first worker-peasant state on German soil. Relations between the GDR and FRG, E. Honecker stressed, can only develop rationally on the basis of the existing treaties and the final act signed in Helsinki. The GDR intends to be guided by these documents, to build relations between the two German states in this spirit and thereby to serve peaceful European order. Essential differences of opinion will continue to exist between socialist and capitalist states but these disagreements must not prevent the process of normalizing our relations in the interests of peace and security in central Europe from being strengthened and expanded in the future for our mutual benefit.

In conclusion E. Honecker dwelt on the urgent tasks which must be at the center of attention of every party organization and every member of the SED.

PZPR POLITBURO APPROVES RESULTS OF HONECKER, STOPH VISIT

LD221434Y Moscow TASS in English 1319 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Warsaw, February 22, TASS--The Politbureau of the Polish United Workers' Party CC has approved the results of the talks of First Secretary of the Party Central Committee Edward Gierek and Chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers Piotr Jaroszewicz with general secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany Central Committee, Chairman of the GDR State Council Erich Honecker, and Chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers Willi Stoph, who paid a friendly working visit to Poland.

The Politbureau of the Polish United Workers' Party Central Committee stressed that the talks are of great significance for widening mutually beneficial economic and scientific-technical cooperation, for further developing the friendly contacts between Poland and the GDR. They also serve towards deepening cooperation between the Polish United Workers' Party and the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and the governments of both countries in pursuing the foreign policy line of the socialist states, directed at strengthening detente, peace and international cooperation.

The government organs of the Polish People's Republic were recommended to take necessary measures for the implementation of agreements reached in the course of the talks.

#### PZPR DELEGATION MEETS SOVIET AGRICULTURE OFFICIALS

LD221057Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--A delegation of Polish United Workers' Party [PZPR] workers headed by J. Pinkowski, secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, was in the Soviet Union 15 through 17 February at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

The Polish comrades familiarized themselves with the activity of the CPSU in managing agriculture. They had meetings and talks at the CPSU Central Committee Agricultural Department, the USSR Ministry of Agriculture, and the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry and visited a number of kolkhozes and sovkhoses in Moskovskaya Oblast.

The Polish friends were received by F.D. Kulakov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who had a warm, friendly talk with them in which CPSU Central Committee Department chiefs V.A. Karlov and F.I. Mochalin took part.

#### PZPR CULTURE OFFICIAL RECEIVED BY DEMICHEV, ZIMYANIN

LD171713Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Unattributed report: "At the Invitation of the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] B. Gawronski, chief of the Polish United Workers' Party Central Committee Culture Department, was in Moscow 13-14 February at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. He had meetings and conversations in the CPSU Central Committee Culture Department, the USSR Ministry of Culture, USSR Goskina and the USSR Artists' Union.

B. Gawronski was received by P. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, and M.V. Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. V.F. Shauro, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Culture Department participated in the conversations, which took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

#### ALBANIA'S CEMA MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARY REPORTED

AU221110Y Moscow in Albanian to Albania 1530 GMT 21 Feb 78 AU

[Observer Aleksandr Nikolayev Commentary Devoted to 29th Anniversary of Albanian Membership in CEMA]

[Text] Twenty-nine years ago today Albania became a CEMA member. Our observer Aleksandr Nicolayev writes on this occasion:

Albania's entry took place at a time when Albania had just begun to create the economic base of socialism. Cooperation with the industrially developed European socialist countries and the fraternal neighborly assistance which they provided played a very important part in accelerating the pace of Albania's economic development.

The first long-term Soviet-Albanian agreement to supply Albania with different machinery and equipment was signed in April 1949. In subsequent years, the Soviet economic-technical assistance increased, with the primary aim of accelerating the building of the base of socialism in Albania, improving the material position of its people. A stable base was established in Albania using Soviet economic-technical assistance to develop its electric energy network and the oil, cement, timber and textile industries and other industrial branches. With the assistance provided by the Soviet Union, some 50 important industrial enterprises were built and commissioned, including the Vladimir Illich Lenin hydroelectric power station in Tirana and the Karl Marx hydroelectric power station on the Mat River, the oil refinery in Cerrik, the textile and food combines in Tirana, the cement factory in Vlore and so forth.

The other CEMA countries also gave substantial assistance to develop Albania's national economy. For example, Czechoslovakia helped Albania to reconstruct the [word indistinct] industry and to organize the extraction of iron-nickel ore; the GDR helped to build the fish canning factory and [word indistinct] copper enriching plant; Hungary helped to establish food industry enterprises; Bulgaria helped to develop the tobacco industry; and so forth.

This technical-scientific cooperation assumed large proportions and, as a result, Albania within a short time was able to master an advanced technology in a number of industrial branches, to improve agricultural production and to establish the bases for creating its own scientific institutions. The CEMA countries provided great assistance also in training qualified Albanian workers and engineering-technical personnel.

The Third AWP Congress noted in its own documents the vital importance of the participation in CEMA for Albania and stated that the coordination of the economic plans of our countries within the CEMA framework was very beneficial.

The role played by the CEMA countries in the development of Albania's economy is also demonstrated by the fact that in 1960 they accounted for 86 percent of the volume of [words indistinct] of Albania. Albania now maintains relations with the CEMA countries, except the Soviet Union, mainly in the trade field. Albania imports various machinery and equipment, spare parts, fittings for the electronics industry and many other commodities needed by its national economy. The CEMA countries are a vast and stable market for selling the goods of traditional Albanian exports.

USSR'S MOROZOV, BULGARIA'S STOICHKOV CONFER

LD221231Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[Text] A meeting took place 15 February between V.G. Morozov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, and G. Stoichkov, deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers.

## MARCHAIS CALLS FOR SUPPORT FOR PCF IN FRENCH ELECTIONS

LD220901Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[TASS Report: "For a Policy of Social Progress"]

[Text] Paris, 17 February--Tens of thousands of inhabitants of the capital and its environs took part in a meeting organized here by the French Communist Party [PCF] in connection with the forthcoming March elections to the National Assembly.

"Vote for the communists: that is the main condition for victory!"--a mass demonstration by French working people marking an important new stage in the unification of all forces favoring democratic change in the country took place under this slogan.

G. Marchais, secretary general of the PCF, delivered a long speech to those assembled. "The communists position," he said, "is clear: We want transformations and the implementation of the joint government program; we want an alliance of leftwing forces. For 15 years now the communists have been struggling tirelessly for this alliance of all working people, all democratic and leftwing forces on the basis of a clear joint government program."

G. Marchais reaffirmed the PCF's readiness at any time to resume talks with the Socialist Party on such a program according to the vital interests of the overwhelming majority of French people.

The PCF secretary general pointed out the paramount importance of profound economic transformations, above all the nationalization of the banks and nine large-scale industrial monopoly groups. No social progress whatsoever can be achieved by leaving the reins of government in the hands of big capital, he said.

G. Marchais stated that the communists intend to seek an improvement in the population's living standard. For this they believe it is essential to increase taxes on large-scale profits and capital, to raise the minimum wage level considerably, and to exempt the least affluent families from income tax.

An essential condition for the real implementation of truly democratic changes by a government of leftwing forces and for the restriction of the omnipotence of the capitalists, he stressed, is the participation of communist ministers in this government.

In conclusion the PCF secretary general urged the working people to vote for the PCF candidates in the first round of the elections on 12 March and thus provide a reliable guarantee of the pursuit of a policy of social progress and the implementation of profound changes in the country.

## U.S. INTERFERENCE IN FRENCH ELECTIONS CRITICIZED

LD221357Z Moscow TASS in English 1333 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 22, TASS--TASS commentator Yevgeniy Babenko writes:

An election campaign has officially begun in France. In this connection the intense internal political struggle assumed a still keener character. The "battle for electors" on the eve of parliamentary elections scheduled for March 12-19 is being conducted against the background of the crisis socio-economic and political situation.

The pre-election situation in the country is so complex and differences are so considerable both inside the right-wing and left-wing camps that few in Paris now venture to predict the outcome of the polling in March.

The situation is being complicated by an interference in the internal political struggle in France from the outside. U.S. official figures, who again declared against the participation of communist parties in governments of West European countries including France, made a gross, unceremonious attempt to exert pressure on the French electorate.

Such an unpardonable political pressure gave rise to a wave of protests of the French democratic public. The gross nature of such an interference was also condemned even by representatives of the bourgeois parties that are in power in France. The anticommunist campaign from across the ocean, however, is being continued and, as was previously the case more than once, is being accompanied with antiSoviet speculations.

Thus, the latest issue of the American weekly NEWSWEEK carried provocative inventions about an "attitude" of Soviet diplomatic representatives in Paris who allegedly made it clear to "some French persons" that a setback of leftwing forces at the March elections would be preferred in the USSR.

In actual fact Soviet people have never concealed that they follow with sympathies the struggle of the working people of capitalist countries in defence of their vital interests. At the same time the USSR has never interfered, and is [not] going to do that, in the internal affairs of other states, considering the internal political struggle an exceptional cause and right of the peoples of states.

The general parliamentary elections of March 12-19 in France are a purely internal affair of the French people. They can decide themselves, without prompting from the outside, what way their country must follow.

Soviet officials consider it out of place to make any statements as to "desirability" of participation of some or other political forces in the governments of foreign states. The USSR undeviatingly and consistently pursues a policy of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries.

We are for a further all-round strengthening of mutually advantageous friendly Soviet-French relations irrespective of the internal political situation and, in particular, of who will win the March elections.

#### FRENCH REFUSAL TO GRANT ARMS TO SOMALIA ACKNOWLEDGED

LD221417Y Moscow TASS in English 1200 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Paris, February 22, TASS--French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud addressed the association of journalists of the overseas territories. Speaking on the developments in the Horn of Africa, he said that the African states shall settle their conflicts through their own means at the regional and continental level. Commenting on France's refusal to grant military aid to Somalia, the minister said: "We could not and cannot give military aid to a government which launched an aggression against one of its neighbours."

We respect the principles of inviolability of borders as they were sealed in the UN Charter, and come out for a peaceful settlement of the problem of the Horn of Africa. That is precisely why we declared from the very outset that we cannot support the actions of the Somali Government." At the same time, the foreign minister noted that France would revise its decision, if the Somali Government made a statement of consent to withdraw its troops from Ogaden and seek a peaceful settlement with Ethiopia. The minister stressed that France maintains relations with the Mogadiscio Government in other fields. Thus, in particular, economic aid to Somalia has been recently widened.

## BRITISH ARMS SUPPLIES TO SOMALIA AGGRAVATE CONFLICT

LD222030Y Moscow TASS in English 2014 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

["The Testimony of Facts"--TASS Headline]

[Text] Brussels, February 22, TASS--There has been an increase in the flow of British arms to Somalia of late. The arms enter Somalia through the third countries.

Chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia Lieutenant Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam has underlined that the USA, Britain, France and the FRG, together with the governments of Saudi Arabia and a number of other countries have worked out a plan to give military aid to Somalia. Mengistu Haile Mariam made the statement in a recent speech at a meeting in Addis Ababa. The British newspaper SUNDAY TELEGRAPH admitted that such a plan did exist. The paper observed that the United States together with Britain and other NATO countries had worked out a programme of an urgent dispatch of weapons to Somalia, including tanks, missiles and jet bombers.

According to the newspaper LE DRAPEAU ROUGE the British Government has officially stated it is going to consider favourably Somalia's request for the sale of arms.

According to the American magazine NEWSWEEK, the Somali side has held secret talks in a number of NATO countries, including Britain. As a result, the magazine points out, a consortium of British, French and Spanish companies is to supply Somalia with ammunition, anti aircraft missiles, and spare parts for tanks.

A report from the Somali capital by a correspondent of the American news agency UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL makes it clear these plans are already being actively implemented. The correspondent says large quantities of arms including British anti-aircraft missiles have arrived in Somalia over the past two weeks.

According to Western press reports, Somali agents have also started intensive activities in Britain and the United States to recruit military specialists. The OBSERVER newspaper says the well-known British mercenary-recruiting agent John Banks has visited Mogadiscio where he met a group of British specialists allegedly "building a power station." According to the newspaper, Banks offered Somalia helicopters and pilots to fly them.

Now that protests are mounting among the African and world public about Western support for Somalia's acts of aggression against Ethiopia some of the British papers are trying to deny after the fact that Britain is involved in the large-scale arms supplies to Somalia. And it makes you wonder how these pharisaical statements can be made compatible with the evidence provided by the British press itself. The facts testify to the contrary.

There is no doubt that those who stubbornly refuse to learn a lesson from the bitter experience of the Middle East crisis will bear full responsibility for the possible consequences of the actions encouraging the aggressor, the actions that can complicate the Somali-Ethiopian conflict even to a greater extent.

OTRAG OPERATIONS IN ZAIRE INDICATE OMINOUS PLANS BY WEST

LD211215Y Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 15 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[A. Mozgovoy Article: "OTRAG's Dangerous Business"]

[Text] Do you want to become a coowner of an enterprise which promises to bring in many billions in profits? There is nothing simpler. You simply have to become one of the shareholders of the joint-stock company Orbital Transport and Raketen Ag (OTRAG). The firm's address is: FRG, Neu Isenburg, Herzogstrasse, 61.

Such advertisements are appearing increasingly frequently on the pages of West German newspapers and magazines. Moreover they are being carried by extremely influential bourgeois publications like the FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE, and DER SPIEGEL where advertising costs a round sum measured in thousands of marks.

A year ago, few people, even in the FRG's business circles, knew of OTRAG's existence. Fame overtook the firm unexpectedly and, however paradoxical this may seem, against the wishes of its bosses.

On 8 August 1977 the magazine AFRIQUE-ASIE, which is published in Paris, carried some sensational material--the complete text of an agreement between the Zairian authorities and OTRAG. According to the contract, signed in December 1975, OTRAG obtained, in exchange for DM65 million per annum, "the right to unrestricted use" of part of Zaire's territory for rocket launchings. It should be noted that this "part" of Zaire's territory in Shaba Province which we are talking about is equal in area to two-thirds of the entire FRG.

The points of the deal, as the Italian weekly GIORNI observes, "seem to have been borrowed from some science-fiction novel." Thus, the activity of the West German firm is not subject to any control. Only persons with OTRAG's special authorization are permitted in the vicinity of the test area. The agreement, which will last until the year 2000, cannot be canceled by the Zairian Government under any legal pretext.

The contract has not just remained on paper. Its implementation is going ahead at full speed. Rockets with OTRAG markings are already being launched from the rocky plateau above the Luvua River valley.

Since the public at large has gotten to know about the agreement between OTRAG and Zaire, the firm's leaders have emerged from the shadows and have willingly begun giving interviews. In one of these interviews Lutz Kaiser, president of OTRAG, answering the question "but what will OTRAG be launching into space?" said: "The carrier rocket can carry anything whatsoever, and even hydrogen bombs, of course."

The OTRAG president quickly realized his mistake and most likely cursed himself repeatedly for his own indiscretion. This is why he has recently been repeating that his company's rockets are intended only for launching satellites and for meteorological research. In this connection the U.S. commentator Tad Szulc, who has been studying the "OTRAG phenomenon" for a long time, writes: "U.S. specialists are disputing the assertions that a territory equivalent to the area of the state of Colorado is necessary for testing satellites. However, cruise missiles, and particularly ballistic missiles, do indeed require an enormous territory so that they can be located in the test area after being fired."

According to Szulc, OTRAG is operating in Zaire with the knowledge and approval of the United States, which has passed on to West German firms the necessary technology for the production of cruise and ballistic missiles within the context of a so-called "cooperation program." Moreover, as the U.S. commentator stresses, certain of the actions under this program have been carried out by the Pentagon, bypassing the State Department and the FRG Foreign Ministry. Overall, the operation has been coordinated by the CIA and West Germany's secret service, the BND.

Numerous facts corroborate Tad Szulc's story. Indeed, Lutz Kaiser was for a long time in the service of the American National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Dr Kurt Debus, chairman of OTRAG's supervisory council, has a richer biography. He had a brilliant career in the Third Reich. In 1942 Debus, with Von Braun, headed the secret base at Peenemuende where the Hitlerites tested the V-2 rocket. After the war the Americans invited Debus to the United States where, in 1963, he became director of the Kennedy Space Flight Center. It was precisely Dr Debus who enlisted many Peenemuende "veterans" and also U.S. missile experts, to work for OTRAG.

And there is yet another very important detail. The leading West Germany aviation and missile company Messerschmitt-Boelkow-Blohm figures among the OTRAG shareholders. The U.S. Boeing Corporation--the Pentagon's general contractor for the production of the Minuteman ballistic missiles and ALCM cruise missiles--is a coowner of this enterprise. It has not been ruled out that a transfer of technical documentation has taken place along the Boeing-Messerschmitt-OTRAG chain.

Reactionary political circles of the FRG are giving OTRAG the most active support. Suffice it to say that a certain Fred Weimar--adviser to Franz-Josef Strauss, leader of the Bavarian Christian Social Union--helped to tie up the deal with Zaire.

The creation of the OTRAG test area in Zaire is in essence a scandalous violation of the international treaties which prohibit West Germany from engaging in the development and production of strategic missiles. However, the FRG's NATO allies to a certain extent "planned" this violation. A loophole had been left in the 1954 Paris agreements which were signed by the member countries of the Western European Union (WEU); they said nothing about the possibility of creating missiles outside the confines of the FRG. "At the very height of the cold war with the Soviet Union the idea of such a loophole was not absolutely alien to the United States," Szulc affirms. The Paris agreements will remain in force until 1998. The OTRAG contract with Zaire has been signed for a term up to the year 2000. So, by the time the prohibitions imposed by the WEU expire, several types of perfected strategic missile complexes can be transferred to the Bundeswehr. In this connection Lutz Kaiser's words about the fact that his "missile will still be working in the year 2000" sound extremely ominous.

...OTRAG is now intensively advertising its wares on the pages of newspapers and magazines, and it is enlisting new shareholders by promising them major dividends. The advertisements stress that OTRAG is a private enterprise. This is indeed the case since all companies in the FRG engaged in the military industry sphere are private. Only under OTRAG's "private roof" lurk the far-reaching imperialist plans of the West German military-industrial complex.

## 'ANTIDEMOCRATIC' TERRORIST LAWS HIT FRG CITIZENS' RIGHTS

LD220921Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Correspondent N. Polyanov Report: "A Blow to Civil Rights"]

[Text] Bonn--After stormy debates the West German Bundestag on 16 February adopted the package of antidemocratic laws which under the guise of the "struggle against terrorism" will deliver a serious blow to the civil rights of the FRG population.

The new laws made it easier for the police to intrude into private apartments, going as far as arranging round-ups in whole apartment blocks, and confiscating property. They legalize control over means of transport, going as far as searching cars and stopping street traffic at the borders of city areas. Even people not suspected of anything can now be arrested without a court order to "establish their identity," if the police deem it necessary. Political prisoners, even if their terrorist activity has not been proven, can be forbidden free access to defense representatives.

In the immediate future the government is also preparing to introduce a new unwieldy system of "notification." In the words of the press, they have in mind to gather up to 200 pieces of biographical information on every citizen. They will be stored in a central computer and are intended to make it easier for the authorities to shadow the population.

The package of antidemocratic laws was adopted by a majority of one vote by the ruling coalition of Social Democrats and Free Democrats, and was voted against by four deputies of the Social Democratic Party, who stated that they disagree with the antidemocratic nature of the new legislation. The opposition bloc of the Christian Democratic Union and the Christian Social Union voted against it, demanding even tougher antidemocratic laws and an even greater "tightening of the screws."

A number of West German press organs are sharply criticizing the new laws. STERN magazine asks the question: Who will protect us from police tyranny? The West German communist newspaper UNSERE ZEIT writes: "The struggle against terrorism is only a term used as a pretext in order to cut away slice by slice at the main democratic rights of citizens.... We are talking here of an attempt to frighten people. Be quiet and do not grumble--this is the demand made on them by the authorities."

## NORDIC COUNCIL OPENS SESSION IN OSLO

LD181732Y Moscow TASS in English 1441 GMT 18 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Oslo, February 18, TASS--The 26th session of the Nordic Council--a consultative body of the countries of northern Europe--has opened in the building of the Norwegian Storting today. It is being attended by 78 deputies of the parliaments of Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Finland and Sweden, as well as a number of statesmen of these countries. The most important subject of discussion at the session is a quest for a way out of the economic crisis experienced by the countries of northern Europe. On the agenda are also questions pertaining to improvement of air communication in the areas beyond the polar circle, development of tourism and cooperation in the field of television. The session of the Nordic Council is to last five days.

AL-ASAD ENDS MOSCOW VISIT, DEPARTS FOR DAMASCUS

LD230952Y Moscow TASS in English 0902 GMT 23 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 23 TASS--Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party and president of the Syrian Arab Republic, heading the party and government delegation of the S.A.R., left Moscow for Damascus today.

He had come to the Soviet Union on an official friendly visit as guest of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers.

Vnukovo Airport was flying the national flags of the Syrian Arab Republic and the Soviet Union. Hafiz al-Asad was seen off by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Aleksey Kosygin, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Dmitriy Ustinov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and defence minister of the USSR, and other Soviet officials.

Jabr al-Kafri, ambassador of Syria to the USSR, heads of diplomatic missions of a number of countries, accredited in the USSR, and representatives of Moscow's working people, were at the airport.

A guard of honour of the three services of the armed forces, infantrymen, airmen and sailors, was drawn up. Leonid Brezhnev and Hafiz al-Asad inspected the ranks of the Soviet servicemen. The national anthems of the Syrian Arab Republic and the Soviet Union were played. The national flags of the two countries and streamers of greeting decorated the streets and squares of the capital through which the distinguished Syrian guests and the Soviet leaders proceeded, escorted by motorcycle outriders.

SYRIAN FOREIGN POLICY, ECONOMY BENEFIT FROM SOVIET SUPPORT

LD220939Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[Yu. Glukhov dispatch: "Priority Tasks"]

[Text] Damascus--"Come and look at this city and judge for yourself." I read this inscription, made by the hurried hand of someone shaken by what he had seen, on the wall of a house in the Syrian city of Al Qunaytirah. Strictly speaking, it was not a house. What remained of it was a half-collapsed wall lost among the ruins.

Skirting piles of stone debris, we walked around the dead city and encountered a snake-like strip of barbed wire. Just the other side of it was an Israeli military post. A plowed strip of land lay not far from it, as in a border zone. It framed the green scraps of fields in which small figures were swarming antlike and tractor was scurrying in a businesslike manner. These were Israeli semimilitary settlements on territory seized from the Syrians.

Only 60 KM separate Damascus from Al Qunaytirah and the cease-fire line. But it is not only a question of the aggressor's immediate geographic proximity. An atmosphere of tension persists because of the general lack of a settlement in the Near East conflict and the occupation of part of Syria's territory. This is why the struggle to liquidate the consequences of Israeli aggression, in addition to the deepening of progressive transformations, is regarded by the leading political parties in Syria as the chief task. [paragraph continues]

As President H. al-Assad of Syria has declared, all the country's efforts will be directed, as before, toward the struggle against the Israeli aggressor and toward national development.

Syria rejects the capitulatory and conciliatory policy being pursued by President A. as-Sadat of Egypt. I have witnessed protest demonstrations by many thousands of people, which went throughout the country, when the Syrian people took to the streets to say "no" to Cairo's separatist plans.

As-Sadat's departure from the pan-Arab position, Fadil al-Ansari, member of the Ba'th Party national leadership, pointed out in conversation with Soviet journalists, has changed the balance of power in the Near East, weakened the Arab ranks and created additional obstacles on the path toward peace. What is apparent is the desire of the United States and Israel to use Egypt for the struggle against the realization of the Arab peoples' legitimate and just demands and against the national liberation movement on the African Continent and for the strengthening of Arab reactionary forces. They would also like to use the Egyptian stance to kindle inter-Arab contradictions and to divert attention from the main problem--the continuing Israeli aggression.

We are countering imperialism's offensive, Fadil al-Ansari said, with the cohesion of our ranks. As is known, Syria took an active part in the Algiers meeting of a number of Arab states and the PLO. While emphasizing the cohesion of progressive forces in the Arab world, our interlocutor pointed out, we seek to attract to the united action front all Arab states which are opposed to separatist actions and the capitulatory course. Great attention is also devoted to strengthening relations with the USSR.

Ahmad Iskandar, Syrian minister of information, also spoke of the significance of comprehensive Syrian-Soviet cooperation. The Syrian people, he pointed out, value the Soviet Union's support highly. Our relations are built on a sound basis and have deep roots. It is the desire of the Syrian people to continue strengthening relations based on mutual trust and respect. By relying on the Soviet Union's support and developing relations with it the Arab world can hold out against the intrigues of imperialism.

We are traveling a difficult path and have been forced to make sacrifices in the economy and in other spheres, Syrian Deputy Prime Minister Jamil Shayya said. But, despite all the difficulties, our achievements give cause for satisfaction. Hundreds of industrial projects have been constructed in very different sectors, some with the Soviet Union's assistance. The most important of them is the Euphrates hydroelectric complex.

Of course, there are still many difficulties in the country's development. At the headquarters of the General Federation of Trade Union Workers we were told about a certain reanimation of bourgeois elements. The Syrian press is also writing about this. But the intrigues of internal and external reaction are being hindered by the forces of progress. An important place among them belongs to the progressive national front, which was set up in 1972. It includes the Ba'th Party, the Syrian Communist Party, the Arab Socialist Party and other democratic organizations.

...These days the final, eighth unit is being installed in the construction of the Euphrates hydroelectric power station. When commissioned, the power station will be fully operational.

"We are carrying out the installation within reduced times," shift engineer Khalid Obdakh said. "Great experience has already been accumulated, and we now manage to do in 1 month what used to take 3 months. The work itself is also satisfying. We are working not only for today but also for the future."

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SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER REITERATES STAND ON MIDEAST ISSUES

LD221416Y Moscow TASS in English 1336 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

["Stand of Principle"--TASS headline]

[Text] Kuwait-February 22, TASS--Syria believes that the road of separate negotiations with Israel, chosen by the Egyptian President as-Sadat, cannot ensure a just peace in the Middle East. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, vice-premier and foreign minister of Syria, said in an interview to the newspaper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM. This road, he said, will in the final analysis lead only to the satisfaction of all or the majority of Israel's demands. After As-Sadat's trip to Jerusalem Egypt is gradually making concessions, whereas Israel's stand is becoming increasingly tough. In other words, concessions were demanded from Egypt so that its stand would be approximated with the position of Israel.

Pointing to the negative reaction, caused in the Arab world by As-Sadat's "initiative," 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam said that Jordan informed Syria about its refusal to join the Egyptian-Israeli separate negotiations. Saudi Arabia and Kuwait also confirmed their disagreement with Egypt's line. These countries come out for the complete liberation of the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and ensurance of the lawful national rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to create their own independent state.

The Syrian minister categorically rejected the Israeli plan of granting limited autonomy to the population of the Western Bank of the Jordan River and the Gaza Strip. This plan, he stressed, has the purpose of turning these territories into adjuncts of the Zionist state.

Characterising Syria's stand of principle in the settlement of the Middle Eastern conflict, Khaddam said that his country would never agree to any infringement of the interests of the Palestinians. He stressed that the Palestine Liberation Organization, recognized as the only lawful representative of the Palestine people, must take part in the search for peace in the Middle East.

In conclusion the minister highly evaluated the assistance and backing given to the Arabs by the Soviet Union in their struggle against the Israeli aggression, and went on record for the further development of Syrian-Soviet cooperation.

LIBYA'S JALLUD SENDS MESSAGE FROM PLANE DEPARTING USSR

LD222328Y Moscow in Arabic to North Africa 2100 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 22--When leaving the Soviet Union 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud, member of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, sent friendly wishes from aboard the plane to Aleksey Kosygin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and other comrades from the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government.

The telegram says: The talks I held with Leonid Brezhnev, with you and other Soviet comrades, confirmed the depth of the relations between our countries, and also between the Arab nation and the Soviet peoples.

These relations rest on the inviolable and firm basis of struggle against colonialism, Zionism, imperialism and reaction, for freedom and the establishment of genuine peace for all mankind, and for the implementation of the social revolution.

I am leaving your wonderful country and I am fully confident that relations between our two countries have a great future. I take the opportunity to congratulate you and the other Soviet comrades and the people of the Soviet Union on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Army. Finally I would like to express my thanks to you and to the other Soviet leaders and also to the peoples of the Soviet Union. I would like to wish Comrade Leonid Brezhnev and yourself long life and happiness and to the peoples of the Soviet Union further progress and success.

#### JALLUD'S VISIT TO USSR DEVELOPS COOPERATION, CONTACTS

0222002Y Moscow TASS in English 1608 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

["Favourable Direction"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 22 TASS--"Abd as-Salam Jallud's meetings with Soviet leaders have shown that cooperation and contacts between our countries at all levels are developing in a favorable direction," the NEW TIMES [NOVOYE VREMYA] weekly writes commenting on the results of the visit to the USSR by the general secretary of the General People's Congress of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

"Concrete measures to deepen cooperation and expand coordination of action of the two countries in the international arena were outlined at the talk in Moscow," the weekly notes. "A protocol was signed on further developing economic and technical cooperation between the USSR and Libya. The concrete manifestations of friendship between the Soviet and Arab states rejoice all those who treasure the cause of peace and progress. At the same time attempts are being made in certain circles in the West and in the Arab east by means of all sorts of concoctions to range the Soviet Union against the Arabs. 'Abd as-Salam Jallud gave a worthy (?rebuff) to these insinuations. He stated in Moscow that the Arab peoples realise very well that by strengthening friendship with the Soviet Union they thereby have a possibility to consolidate their own forces. 'Abd as-Salaam Jallud's visit to the USSR confirmed this again."

#### AS-SADAT BLAMES CYPRUS PRESIDENT FOR COMMANDO FAILURE

LD221952Y Moscow TASS in English 1750 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

["Attempt To Justify Venture"--TASS headline]

[Text] Cairo, February 22, TASS--Egyptian President as-Sadat has today heaped crude abuse on the head of the Republic of Cyprus. President as-Sadat blamed him for the failure of the armed operation launched by Egyptian commandos at Larnaca Airport in Cyprus.

Speaking before the personnel of one of the Egyptian commando units, President as-Sadat said Egypt no longer recognized Spyros Kyprianou as president of Cyprus. Earlier Egypt had recalled its diplomatic representatives from Cyprus and expelled Cyprus diplomats from Cairo.

Nicosia, February 22, TASS--The newspaper NEA points out that the Egyptian Government finds itself in an extremely difficult situation both before world public opinion and the Egyptian people themselves. The Egyptian Government, having launched an armed action on Cyprus territory, deceived the Cyprus Government and the world public. That is why today it cannot explain honestly and convincingly how 15 Egyptians have died and why. Problems created by As-Sadat himself cannot be resolved by deceiving the people.

The newspaper believes the latest events in Cyprus are part of a large-scale plan to strike a (?blow) at Cyprus, which is fighting to preserve its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Dar es Salaam, February 22, TASS--The Tanzanian newspaper DAILY NEWS has described the Egyptian commando attack on the Cyprus airport as a reckless adventure. The paper notes it is one thing to denounce terrorism and to fight against it, and it is quite a different matter when terrorist acts are committed on the pretext of fighting terrorism. The paper says the strange Egyptian action at Larnaka Airport was an act of terrorism itself.

The paper concludes by saying that one can only hope the tragic end of the Egyptian venture in Cyprus will make it possible to curb Cairo's mounting drive for unilateral actions on matters concerning other countries.

#### EGYPT USED NICOSIA EVENTS TO AROUSE ANTI-PALESTINIAN MOOD

LD211148Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0730 GMT 21 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Our Beirut correspondent Leonid Rassadin reports:

It is believed in Arab political circles that the action of the Egyptian commandos at Larnaca Airport was clearly provoked by Cairo. As is known, the attack by terrorists belonging to an extremist group on participants in the AAPSO forum was resolutely condemned by all Arabs, most of all by the PLO, which declared that this action simply plays into the hands of the Zionists.

It is pointed out here that Egypt took advantage of the tragic events in Nicosia with one aim only: to cause a wave of hatred in their own country toward the Palestinians. This is shown, among other things, by the fact that during the funeral of Yusuf as-Siba'i in Cairo, anti-Palestinian slogans, clearly inspired by the Egyptian authorities, were shouted for the first time in Egypt's history.

In the opinion of Arab observers, the present Egyptian leadership thus revealed itself as the opponent of a just all-embracing settlement in the Near East, which is impossible without safeguarding the legitimate national rights of the Arab people of Palestine.

## EGYPT CRITICIZED FOR CONTINUED INVOLVEMENT IN SOMALIA, CHAD

LD201640Y Moscow TASS in English 1628 GMT 20 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Rome, February 20, TASS--World public opinion is learning about ever new facts, testifying to the unseemly role of Cairo in the African Continent. The Ethiopian Embassy in Italy has issued a statement, saying that a large contingent of Egyptian troops is being prepared to go to Somalia by sea from Egypt. It was planned to airlift them to Mogadiscio to assist the Somali aggressors in their war against Ethiopia. However, after Kenya have intercepted an Egyptian plane over its territory, loaded with arms for Somalia, three other Egyptian transport planes, carrying troops to that country, were compelled to return to Cairo and are now being sent to Mogadiscio by sea.

President as-Sadat had previously divulged that Egypt was helping the Somali aggressors by supplying various arms to Mogadiscio, including tanks, artillery pieces and ammunition. All these facts, the statement of the Ethiopian Embassy stresses, testify to the direct and broad interference of Egypt and other reactionary regimes in the conflict in the Horn of Africa. Egypt have received assurances from the United States that its arsenal would be replenished by deliveries of modern Western arms to replace the weapons sent to Somalia. Saudi Arabia will pay for the arms deliveries.

As noted by the Ethiopian Embassy, Egypt is well informed that Somalia lays claim to a part of Ethiopian territory, to the territory of the Republic of Djibouti, to the northern areas of Kenya. Under these circumstances, arms deliveries to Somalia constitute nothing but direct participation in the aggression, committed by the Somali Army against Ethiopia, open instigation of the Mogadiscio regime to unprovoked and brazen aggression against Kenya.

According to the recent reports of the Arab press, Cairo is being drawn more and more into the Somali-Ethiopian conflict. Thus, two Egyptian warships have appeared off the Horn of Africa. According to reports from Cairo, the Somali foreign minister has arrived there. He delivered to the Egyptian president an urgent message from the Somali president, the content of which is being kept secret.

The foreign minister of Kenya, M. Waiyaki, who has made a stopover in Rome, said that his country would never allow Egyptian planes, carrying arms to Somalia, to use the air space of Kenya.

Tripoli, February 20, TASS--The Libyan information agency JANA has criticised the Egyptian leadership for interfering in the internal affairs of the African states and siding with imperialism and reaction. Egypt is sending its troops and considerable amounts of arms to Somalia and to Chad, helping, thereby, to fan up internal conflicts in these countries, and promoting the aggression against independent Ethiopia, the agency notes.

Pressured by the United States and the Arab reactionary forces, Cairo is trying now to please the forces of imperialism by playing the role of their accomplice and policeman in the African continent.

Reporting on the facts that testify to the participation of Egyptian servicemen in hostilities in the territory of Chad and to the dispatch of a large amount of weapons to Somalia and to the Eritrean separatists, the JANA agency stresses and the Egyptian leadership is acting contrary to the principles of African and Arab unity, objectively helping to fan up fratricide conflicts in the area of the Horn of Africa and in Chad.

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ISRAEL ESTABLISHES ANOTHER WEST BANK MILITARY SETTLEMENT

LD191129Y Moscow TASS in English 0859 GMT 19 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Amman, February 19, TASS--Another Israeli militarized settlement was set up in the occupied West Bank of the Jordan River on the road between Nabulus and Qalqilyah. Such settlements are created under protection of Israeli troops and are set up as a rule in the lands forcibly taken from Arabs and on the sites where military camps were situated.

25 such camps are being prepared for Israeli settlers now. Military units from these camps are moved to new strong-points and bases in occupied areas.

Exploitation of Occupied Areas

LD221314Y Moscow TASS in English 1302 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, February 22, TASS--The Israeli Cabinet is holding meetings to discuss issues in connection with establishing new militarised settlements in the occupied Arab lands.

According to the Israeli newspaper DAVAR, the program for the colonisation of the captured lands provides for the establishment of another 186 settlements from 1978 to 1992. Over the past decade, almost 100 settlements were established.

The implementation of the program, which is financed by international Zionism and sops from across the ocean, has been immediately proclaimed by the Israeli press as the main national objective of the state.

The ruling circles of Tel Aviv do not conceal that they link with these annexationist plans the attainment of a definite political goal--preventing the creation of a Palestinian state.

At the same time, as Chairman of the Ministerial Committee for Settlements Sharon said, the development of the occupied territories is profitable business promising stable returns in the course of a long period. Natural resources are mercilessly exploited, the lands of the Arabs are confiscated, and they are openly robbed of their property.

INCREASED ISRAELI ACTIVITY ON LEBANESE BORDER CONDEMNED

LD211704Y Moscow TASS in English 1625 GMT 21 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, February 21 TASS--A disquieting situation persists on the southern frontier of Lebanon, where the recent time witnesses enhanced activity of Israeli troops.

Engineer units of the Israeli Army have recently completed the construction of a road from the frontier to the Meis el-Jabal village, deep in the territory of Lebanon. Fleeting from Israeli soldiers, many residents of nearby villages left their houses and moved to live in other areas.

A strict curfew was imposed for those who stayed on. The area is patrolled by Israeli tanks. Israel's aviation continues reconnaissance flights over Lebanon's territory, while Israeli warships systematically intrude into its waters.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS  
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TEL AVIV TRIAL OF JOURNALISTS DESCRIBED AS 'FARCE'

LD211744Y Moscow TASS in English 1658 GMT 21 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 21, TASS--TASS commentator Sergey Stoklitskiy writes:

The judicial authorities of Tel Aviv have started a disgraceful farce of a trial over two journalists--Hans Lebrecht, member of the Central Committee of Israel's Communist Party, secretary of the association of fighters of the anti-Hitler front and victims of nazism, and Panayotis Paschalis, a correspondent of KHARAVGI, the newspaper of the Cyprus communists. They are charged with....espionage for the Palestinians. Both of them pleaded not guilty at the trial.

The charge levelled against the two progressive journalists is a standard one. Tel Aviv puts into play such a "version" every time it wants to make short work of those who come out against the Israeli aggression and the authorities' terror on the occupied Arab lands.

Panayotis Paschalis and Hans Lebrecht are exactly such persons.

In their numerous articles and photographs, published by the French L'HUMANITE, Italian L'UNITA and many other newspapers and journals they narrated to the whole world about the outrages perpetrated by Israeli occupationists on the captured lands.

The evidence levelled against the two journalists is absurd. These are advertisement booklets and also photographs made at streets of Israeli towns. All these materials were taken out of the journalists' personal files and were used in court as "material evidence" of their guilt.

The trial of Hans Lebrecht and Panayotis Paschalis has sparked a broad wave of protests both in Israel itself and in many other countries.

The public is fully aware that Tel Aviv's provocative farce of a trial is directed against those who disagree with the expansionist course of Israel's policy, who denounce the crying violations of elementary rights both of the Arab people of Palestine and the Israelis themselves.

U.S. PERSIAN GULF PLANS END HOPES FOR PRESSURE ON ISRAEL

LD221053Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[V. Borisov article: "Dangerous Plans"]

[Text] Arab public opinion resolutely condemns U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown's directive providing for the use of U.S. troops in the Persian Gulf under "extraordinary circumstances." In accordance with this directive a special mobile task force is being set up in the U.S. Armed Forces which could be transferred to the Persian Gulf at any moment on the pretext of "protecting" oil sources.

Washington's intentions, which confirm yet again the imperialist nature of U.S. policy toward the oil-producing countries, accord with previous statements by other U.S. executives. Alarmed at the fate of its oil interests in the Near East, the United States is trying to strengthen its positions in the Persian Gulf region. If necessary, U.S. Energy Secretary J. Schlesinger declared at the end of last year, measures will be taken to "insure the real security of sources for obtaining oil by decisive military actions."

Speaking of the attempts by international imperialism to create new pacts and regional organizations in the Persian Gulf region, President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr of Iraq declared in an interview in the Baghdad newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH: The United States has not abandoned its aggressive intentions. Moreover, its plans are closely linked with global imperialist aims and are directed against the Arab nation.

The Pentagon's threats against the oil-producing Arab countries are new confirmation of the illusory nature of the hopes of those circles in the Arab east which believe that they will be able, with Washington's help, to secure concessions from Israel on the question of settling the Near East crisis. According to the Kuwait newspaper AR-RAY AL-'AMM, the United States is using the oil-producing Arab states to obtain oil and petrodollars but does not intend to abandon its position of strength policy. The people of Arab countries express alarm at the dangerous plans of imperialism. They decisively reject its claims to their national riches.

#### NEED TO IMPROVE SAUDI-SOVIET RELATIONS STRESSED

LD191912Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 19 Feb 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] In the middle of February 1926 the Soviet consul in Jidda and King Ibn Sa'ud exchanged notes on the question of establishing diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the Hijazi state. With this action, the Soviet Union officially recognized the independence of present-day Saudi Arabia as a state on the one hand, and the establishment of official relations between them on the other.

I recall here that the note of King Ibn Sa'ud expressed thanks to the Soviet Union for its recognition of the new situation in Hijaz. The recognition came at a time when the imperialist forces were working to spread their domination over all the Arabian Peninsula. This step by the Soviet state became one form of supporting the struggle of the Saudi kingdom--which has come into being--in the defense of its sovereignty.

Establishing diplomatic relations enabled the two states to develop active political and trade contacts. Soviet goods appeared on the Saudi markets--a matter that made it possible to weaken the grip of the British monopoly on domestic and foreign trade in the Saudi kingdom. Soviet doctors in the 1930's rendered great medical assistance to the Saudi population.

However, one must say that the imperialists made substantial efforts to hinder the normal development of Soviet-Saudi relations in various fields because in this they saw a great danger to their greedy interests in the Arabian Peninsula. Today as well the enemies of the freedom and national independence of the Arab nations are hindering the settlement of relations between the two states--relations which were ruptured through no fault of the Soviet Union.

In pursuit of their narrow and selfish aims, the imperialists are persistently scaring the Saudi ruling quarters with the fictitious communist danger. A matter of some significance in this connection is the statement which Zablocki, chairman of the U.S. House International Relations Committee, made recently. He alleged that the activity of the communists even far away from the Arabian Peninsula and the gulf area creates a long-term danger to Saudi Arabia.

Today, once again we see that the ruling Saudi quarters, which link their current policy closely to the interests of the United States and other Western powers in the Arab world, restrict the independence and sovereignty of their country--whether the people like it or not--both in foreign and domestic policy. Quite obviously, such a situation gives rise to the satisfaction of the imperialists and the Zionists, who regard a Western-oriented Saudi policy as an element that helps them in realizing their neocolonialist, expansionist and anti-Arab plans.

At the same time, far-sighted politicians in a number of Arab states have recently, and with increasing persistence, called for a settlement of Saudi Arabia's relations with the Soviet Union. Here they point out the positive and great role of the mighty socialist state on all the Middle East issues, and they stress that the Soviet Union has always stood on the side of the just issue of the Arabs. Clear-thinking Arab politicians believe that settling Soviet-Saudi relations not only serves the interests of the two countries but also helps to strengthen the positions of all the Arabs in their general struggle for liquidating the consequences of Israeli aggression.

In conclusion, gentlemen, I would like to draw your attention to what Saudi Crown Prince Fahd recently said to the Lebanese paper AN-NAHAR. Prince Fahd said: It is in the interest of Saudi Arabia that it should have friendly relations with all countries, and Saudi Arabia respects the Soviet Union as a great power which has its own place in the world.

KOSYGIN CONGRATULATES NEW KUWAITI PRIME MINISTER

LD202050Y Moscow TASS in English 1978 GMT 20 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 20, TASS--The chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Aleksey Kosygin has sent a telegram to the Crown Prince and Prime Minister of Kuwait Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah congratulating him upon his appointment to the post of Kuwait's head of government. In his reply telegram crown prince and prime minister of Kuwait expressed sincere gratitude for the congratulations.

The telegrams express hope that relations of friendship and mutually advantageous cooperation, existing between the two countries, will continue to develop in the coming years.

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U S S R I N T E R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S  
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

H 1

U.S. SHIPS NEAR HORN 'ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE EVENTS'

LD231014Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 23 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Another four U.S. naval ships have been transferred to the Indian Ocean. They will cruise along the northern section of the eastern coastline of Africa.

This step is evaluated by commentators as an attempt by the United States to influence the development of events in the region of the African Horn.

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL ON HORN OF AFRICA CONFLICT

Western Arms

LD221548Y Moscow TASS in English 1426 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

["Encouraging the Aggressor"--TASS headline]

[Text] Kuwait, February 22, TASS--Western powers expand deliveries of armaments to Somalia. As the Kuwaiti newspaper AS-SIYASAH reports, ships and heavy armament and ammunition continue arriving at Somali ports. The newspaper points out that Iran has now become the main mediator in deliveries of arms. At present, according to the newspaper, the Mogadiscio authorities are holding secret talks with Western representatives on the purchase of new batches of armaments, including combat helicopters.

Bonn, February 22, TASS--The FRG gave Somalia additionally six million marks which, as the Munich newspaper SUEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG points out, was used for the purchase of more than 200 military trucks from the Bundeswehr.

Paris, February 22, TASS--The newspaper LE MATIN with reference to diplomatic circles in Mogadiscio reports today that French-made anti-aircraft rockets are among the weapons which are reaching Somalia. They are being delivered through third countries.

Lagos, February 22, TASS--The Nigerian newspaper PUNCH strongly condemns the instigatory role of NATO, with the USA at the head, in the Somali-Ethiopian conflict. The newspaper writes that Washington and its partners, by supplying Somalia with weapons through Saudi Arabia, Iran and Egypt, are encouraging the expansionist aspirations of the Mogadiscio leaders, and seek to destabilize the situation in that part of Africa with a view to establishing their control there.

NATO Equipment

LD221455Y Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[TASS correspondent Yu. Ustimenko report for KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA: "Ethiopia: In the Region of the Fighting"]

[Excerpts] Addis Ababa, 16 February--Only recently 10 Somali Army brigades of 2,000 soldiers each were concentrated on the approaches to Dire Dawa. Tanks came almost right up to the airport, and when they retreated 47 crippled vehicles remained. Now horses harnessed to two-wheeled carts--the ("gari"), or local cabs, not influenced by the energy crisis--trot unhurriedly along the streets. On a vacant lot small boys unselfconsciously chase a football, and, in the bazaars in the shade of mats stretched on poles, shy marketwomen have set out their wares--potatoes, onions and oranges. The enemy has been pushed back 60km but Dire Dawa still retains the look of a frontline city. You frequently encounter helmeted fighters of the people's militia wearing dappled greenish uniforms with the hammer and sickle emblem and carrying submachineguns. Beyond a bend in the road a self-propelled cannon raises a blinding cloud of dust and military aircraft fly by.

An asphalt highway through the steep mountain pass leads from here to Harar. A press conference has been organized for us here in the big city hall. On wall maps green marks indicate the regions of Ethiopia occupied by the Somali troops--almost one-fifth of the country's territory. Col Mulatu Negash, commander of the eastern front, tells us:

"The Somali rulers tried for a long time to assure the world that they were not involved in the armed conflict in the Horn of Africa. They alleged that the military operations had been launched by some 'West Somali Liberation Front' whose existence no one had even suspected until July last year."

But from the very start these mythical "guerrillas" used tanks, heavy artillery, and military aircraft. They razed Gode, Callafo, Uardere, (Dehabur), Kebri Dehar and many other Ethiopian settlements to the ground. It was clear that from the first days units of the Somali regular Army had invaded Ethiopian territory. Using the element of surprise and their superiority in terms of numbers and equipment, they penetrated 300km into the southern and southeastern regions and 700km to the east, occupying almost 70 percent of Hararge Province.

Prisoners of war have described how morale in the army leaves much to be desired. Therefore special subunits which open fire on their own soldiers if they think of retreating operate among the Somali troops.

People who preach the theory of creating by force of arms a "great Somalia" including part of the territory of Ethiopia and Kenya and the entire Republic of Djibouti have gained the upper hand in Mogadiscio. In other words, they are laying claim to all regions of the Horn of Africa where nomadic tribes speaking Somali dialects, who have so far lived peacefully side by side with dozens of other Ethiopian nationalities speaking different languages, have always grazed their herds.

Plans to seize Ethiopia's territory met with active support from Western imperialist circles and reactionary Arab regimes which are naturally pursuing their own selfish goals. In their hands Somalia has begun to play the role of an instrument of struggle against the Ethiopian revolution which has resolutely opposed feudalism, capitalism and imperialism. The Western powers have begun to use Egypt, Saudi Arabia and a number of other countries which receive NATO military aid to send tanks, artillery, guns and ammunition to Mogadiscio. Up to 12,000 soldiers and officers of reactionary Arab armies are fighting with Somali troops on Ethiopian soil, Col Mulatu Negash reported.

Military trophies seized during the fighting on the eastern front are also on display on the outskirts of Dire Dawa. On wooden stands with a scattering of the ubiquitous dust are U.S.-produced 106-mm antitank recoilless guns and food rations, antipersonnel mines, hand grenades and automatic rifles. The inscriptions on the boxes containing ammunition attest that they are of NATO origin while labels bearing the American eagle are neatly stuck to one side of the boxes.

"Revolutionary Ethiopia," (Zelege Beyene), a member of the Provisional Military Administrative Council--Ethiopia's supreme leading organ--stressed at the press conference, "is striving for peace and friendship with all peoples. We have no territorial claims against neighboring states, and our aim is to expel the aggressor and guarantee peace and freedom for the Ethiopian people. Allegations concerning Ethiopia's aggressive aspirations are unfounded. But until there is a total and unconditional withdrawal of Somali troops from Ethiopia there can be no question of a cease-fire."

"We are profoundly grateful," (Zelege Beyene) said, "to the countries of the socialist community and above all the Soviet Union and Cuba for their selfless and all-round support of Ethiopia in the struggle against internal and foreign reaction and for peace, democracy and socialism."

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS  
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

#### Sidamao Combat Operations

LD230812Y Moscow TASS in English 0732 GMT 23 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, February 23, TASS--The armed forces and people's militia units of Ethiopia, acting in a close contact with peasant associations, are carrying out successful combat operations in order to liberate the Sidamao Province areas, occupied by Somali troops. More than a hundred Somali soldiers were destroyed in the course of the recent battles in that province, in the south of Ethiopia, the ETHIOPIAN NEWS AGENCY reports.

#### Strength of Ethiopia: Militia

LD222110Y Moscow TASS in English 1656 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, February 22 TASS--Growing is the number of the people's militia of Ethiopia. During the past fortnight alone, nearly 600 workers and peasants in the provinces of Shawa, Gondar and Arusi, graduated from the courses of military and political training and joined the ranks of revolutionary defense.

Receiving their arms, the fighters of the people's militia declared their determination to defend the revolutionary gains, fight counter-revolution and preserve the territorial integrity of the country.

#### As-Sadat Policy

LD230810Y Moscow TASS in English 0730 GMT 23 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, February 23, TASS--The newspaper ETHIOPIAN HERALD strongly condemns the policy of Egyptian President as-Sadat. As-Sadat's participation in the unlawful arms supplies to Somalia for aggression against sovereign Ethiopia, support for open brigandage in international relations deserve most stern condemnation by the world community, the Ethiopian newspaper stresses.

By striking collusion with international imperialism, the Egyptian president displayed full disregard for the Organization of African Unity and the interests of the peoples of Africa and other continents, the ETHIOPIAN HERALD notes.

#### GDR MASS MEDIA WORKERS ORGANIZE SEMINAR FOR ETHIOPIANS

LD221706Y Moscow TASS in English 1625 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, February 22, TASS--The vice president of the international organization of journalists, chairman of the Union of Journalists of the GDR Harri Czepuck has strongly condemned here the policy of the United States and its NATO bloc allies directed at undermining the people's democratic revolution in Ethiopia. The Ethiopian people's heroic struggle to defend the fatherland and revolutionary gains, he said, has the support of all of mankind's progressive forces.

Harri Czepuck attended the opening in Addis Ababa of a three-month seminar organized by the GDR mass media workers for their Ethiopian colleagues.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS  
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

OAU COMMITTEE SUPPORTS SOUTHERN AFRICA LIBERATION

LD191314Y Moscow TASS in English 1258 GMT 19 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, February 19, TASS--A regular session of the Liberation Committee of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) has ended here.

The final resolution adopted by the session confirms the resolve of African states to give all-round assistance and support to the national liberation movements in southern Africa, to the Zimbabwe and Namibian peoples fighting against the Vorster and Smith racist regimes. The Liberation Committee of the Organization of African Unity declared that it refuses to recognize the outcome of backstage talks of Western imperialist powers with Pretoria and Salisbury. It has been decided to promote actively the convocation under the United Nations auspices of a world conference for combatting racism and racial discrimination to be held in August of the current year.

The resolution says that united action of African states is an earnest of the success of the peoples of the continent in the struggle against imperialism, racism and neocolonialism.

The participants in the session unanimously declared for solving all disputable African problems through talks in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity.

AGENDA FOR OAU FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE REPORTED

LD210756Y Moscow TASS in English 0635 GMT 21 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, February 21, TASS--The 30th session of the ministers of foreign affairs of the Organization of African Unity member-states opened in the Libyan capital. The strengthening of the unity and solidarity of the peoples of the continent in the struggle against imperialism, neocolonialism and racism, consolidation of African countries' efforts in support of the national-liberation movements in the continent, the strengthening of cooperation in the cause of protection of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of African countries are the items on the session's agenda.

Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, general secretary of the General People's Congress of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah, made a speech at the opening of the OAU foreign ministers' session.

Criticism of As-Sadat

LD211646Y Moscow TASS in English 1514 GMT 21 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, February 21, TASS--A session of the Ministerial Council of the Organization of African Unity has opened in Libya's capital. On the agenda are questions of strengthening unity and solidarity of the peoples of the continent in the struggle against neocolonialism and racism and also problems of independent development of African states.

Speaking at the opening of the session, Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, general secretary of the General People's Congress of the Libyan Jamahiriyyah, strongly criticized [word indistinct] policy of the Egyptian President as-Sadat, who has taken up the road of betrayal of the interests of the national-liberation movement to please imperialism, Zionism, and international reaction.

Egypt is now a direct accomplice of Western countries and Israel in suppressing the liberation movement of African peoples, M. al-Qadhdhafi stressed.

He said that the forces of imperialism are using all forms and methods of neocolonialism, trying to exert political and economic pressure upon African countries and grossly interfering into their internal affairs. In these conditions it is necessary to have consolidation of all African states' efforts in order to frustrate plans of imperialism and reaction which seek impose their diktat upon African peoples.

M. al-Qadhafi highly appreciated the principled stand of the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community in supporting the struggle of the African Continent for freedom and independence, against imperialist monopolies' and racist regimes' oppression.

The Egyptian delegation left the session hall in protest against the criticism of As-Sadat's course.

#### COTONOU TRADE UNION CONFERENCE STRESSES NEED FOR UNITY

LD201524Y Moscow TASS in English 1320 GMT 20 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Cotonou, February 20, TASS--TASS correspondent Valeriy Zhdanikov reports:

The participants in an international conference on the role of the trade unions in the struggle against the sway of transnational corporations have demanded that rebuff be given to the multinational corporations which exercise direct interference into political and socio-economic development of African countries, ruthlessly plunder their natural wealth and subject the population to brutal exploitation. The conference held here was arranged by the World Federation of Trade Unions, the Organisation of African Trade Union Unity and the National Union of the Trade Unions of the Working People of Benin.

The final declaration resolutely lays bare the activities of the monopolies, which in their mercenary interests are trying hard to prevent peoples from attaining economic independence. They arrange conspiracies against progressive states, exert political and economic pressure upon governments of developing countries, resort to bribery, threats and blackmail of politicians and statesmen.

The document stresses the need of closer unity of the ranks of the working people in the struggle for their interests, for establishment of new economic order, exercise of effective state control over activities of transnational corporations.

The declaration singles out the situation in southern Africa where the white minority regimes are kept in power thanks to the support of the United States, Britain, the FRG and other Western countries. These states, the document stresses, in word supporting the U.N. decisions on economic sanctions against the racist regimes in deed are trying to undermine the international community's efforts to put them into life.

#### MULTINATIONAL FIRMS SEEN AS NEW COLONIZERS OF AFRICA

LD221005Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Article by political observer Yuriy Zhukov: "Colonizers in a New Guise"]

[Excerpts] The public of the developing countries of Africa is sounding the alarm: A few years after the last colonial bastions on the continent fell, the imperialists are beginning a counteroffensive.

Of course, it is in no way a question of simply repeating what has been done. The times when the explorers landed on the shores of Africa with their warships and proclaimed its lands their own, forcing the indigenous population into slavery, have sunk irrevocably into oblivion.

Colonialism is now appearing increasingly frequently in a new guise: Promises of economic aid frequently come to the fore and in place of flagrant violence there is flattery. And as well as this there is intrigue, plotting and subversive activity against African states that have chosen the path of socialist orientation.

As the magazine L'AFRIQUE NOUVELLE published in Dakar, capital of Senegal, wrote, the key to understanding this new situation is analysis of the activity of the multinational companies created by the major capitalists, or as they are called more accurately by the specialists, the transnational companies active in the developing countries.

"The economic and social results of certain maneuvers (by transnational monopolies in Africa) have been catastrophic," L'AFRIQUE NOUVELLE writes, "and they have led to unemployment and monetary chaos. Trade unions...assert that capital investments by transnational companies in the third world have not promoted the growth of production but, on the contrary, have led to a reduction in the employment of manpower. As regards the monetary chaos, it must be stressed that the transnational companies have frequently been the cause of uncontrolled speculation. But the most serious criticism leveled against the transnational companies regards their political power. In fact they are accused of having international power which at their discretion has led to the overthrow of various governments."

Thus a whole number of developing states have learned from bitter experience how dangerous the policy of "opening doors" to transnational monopolies is. And if we speak of the consequences of this policy, we must mention here the deal concluded between Zaire and the notorious Orbital Transport und Raketen AG (OTRAG), which operates under the flag of Zaire but is obviously connected with foreign partners, which caused such a commotion last summer.

Let me remind you that the OTRAG firm concluded a secret agreement with the Zaire Government on 26 March 1976. The chairman of the firm's supervisory council is Kurt H. Debus, who directed flight tests of the V-2 unpiloted projectiles in Hitlerite Germany during the war and worked in the United States after the war with his friend Wernher von Braun on the creation of missiles for the United States.

Under this agreement OTRAG received the use till the year 2000 of a huge territory equal to three-fourths of the whole area of the FRG. Article 2 of the agreement stipulates that Zaire "gives OTRAG the right without any restrictions to undertake any measures which the corporation considers necessary to exercise full and absolute authority (1) on this territory." Moreover, the FRG received exclusive "disciplinary" rights and powers regarding its employees and the members of their families to whom Zaire's laws thus do not extend.

Article 3 of this agreement contains a condition which has no precedent in international law: OTRAG obtained the right to decide who could continue to live in this territory of 150,000 square kilometres and who had to leave.

The event which occurred in Zaire aroused all the more alarm in Africa because the OTRAG company is by no means involved in an inoffensive matter in the huge territory it has seized. Let me remind you that this transnational monopoly, circumventing international agreements prohibiting the FRG to produce missile arms on its own territory, is engaged in creating missiles capable, on the admission of its director, L. Kaiser, of carrying a nuclear warhead.

"According to information received from high-ranking officials in West Europe," the American journalist Tad Szulc wrote, "OTRAG produces cruise missiles and medium range ballistic missiles for the German consortium consisting of the Messerschmitt, Boelkow and Blohm companies--the main defense contractors in the FRG. They assume that with time the missiles will be handed over to the West German Armed Forces."

Lopo do Nascimento, prime minister of Angola, correctly called the creation on Zaire territory of a base to test West German missile weapons "a threat to the entire African Continent." These fears are shared by the former UN commissioner for Namibian affairs, the eminent politician Sean MacBride.

Such are the alarming facts which show that the actions of the colonizers operating in a new guise are complicating the political situation on the African Continent, which they would again like to enslave, using a new strategy.

#### ANGOLAN IN SAO TOME CONSIDERS 'THREAT OF AGGRESSION'

LD201028Y Moscow TASS in English 0827 GMT 20 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Yaounde, February 20, TASS--Government delegation of the People's Republic of Angola headed by Prime Minister Lopo do Nascimento arrived in the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe. During the meetings with the leaders of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, Lopo do Nascimento said, we intend to sum up the results of bilateral fruitful cooperation in the political, economic and social spheres, to outline the prospects of deepening of relations between our countries. The Angolan minister stressed that in connection with the threat of aggression of internal and external reaction against Sao Tome and Principe, Angola is ready to give the necessary assistance to maintain peace in the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and to ensure the country's further development along the road of progress.

#### Communique Issued

LD221242Y Moscow TASS in English 1044 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Yaounde, February 22, TASS--The People's Republic of Angola and the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe expressed solidarity with the peoples struggling against colonialism, neo-colonialism, imperialism and exploitation of man by man. This is stated in a final communique issued in Sao Tome at the close of an official visit to an Angolan Government delegation led by Lopo do Nascimento, the republic's prime minister. Matters of development of bilateral relations as well as problems of the African Continent were discussed during the talks, the communique points out. An agreement on friendship and cooperation between the two countries was signed as a result of the visit.

## SOVIET SUPPORT FOR SRV PEACE PROPOSALS CITED

OW211659Y Moscow in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1530 GMT 21 Feb 78 OW

[Grammatikov commentary]

[Text] The Soviet people have been following the current serious situation on the SRV-Democratic Cambodia border with anxiety and concern. Recently, mass organizations in the USSR including the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions, the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries and the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace have issued statements in connection with the Vietnam-Cambodia border conflict. On behalf of the various social strata in the USSR, these organizations fully support the SRV's constructive proposals of 31 December 1977 and 5 February 1978. The Soviet people believe that these proposals constitute a basis for peacefully settling the conflict and that they respond to the immediate and long-term interests of the Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples and the cause of peace and security in this region of Asia.

These proposals are compatible with the SRV's foreign policy based on the principles of respect for other countries' independence and territorial integrity, neighborliness, and cooperation between the peoples of different countries. The Soviet people know that since the SRV's emergence, the Vietnamese party, government and people have consistently and unswervingly advocated peace and friendship with the peoples of other countries. When Vietnam was forced to take up arms, it did not do so willingly. It was the colonialists, imperialists and their lackeys who forced it to fight. But even when forced to conduct armed struggle for its freedom and independence, Vietnam has always made efforts on the diplomatic front, displaying its willingness to settle disputed matters by peaceful means and to sit down at the negotiating table. Its admission to the United Nations was a recognition of the SRV's genuine love for peace and its good will.

The Soviet Union highly assesses Vietnam's significance as an important factor of peace and progress not only in Southeast Asia but throughout the whole Asian Continent. Clearheaded persons can see the lack of logic in the Cambodian authorities' charges of subversive activities and interference by Vietnam in Cambodia's internal affairs. We know very well that the time-honored friendship and militant solidarity between the Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples played an important role in their victories over the colonialists and imperialists. Vietnam's sincere and disinterested assistance also contributed to the Cambodian people's success in achieving their freedom and independence. No one can deny this historical fact.

The present conflict between the two neighbors can benefit only the imperialist and reactionary forces who are nurturing the hope of returning to the positions they have lost in Southeast Asia. It was not accidental that officials in the United States (?joyfully) declared that the conflict between Vietnam and Cambodia is beneficial to the U.S. policy. World public opinion is worried about the U.S. Armed Forces' intensification of their activities in the Indochinese coastal area. Big exercises participated in by warships and marines of the U.S. 7th Fleet took place east of the Gulf of Thailand. Meanwhile, a joint U.S.-British exercise in the (?South China Sea) has been announced. Clearly, all this has further intensified the tension in the Vietnam-Cambodia border area.

The Soviet people are greatly concerned about insuring an atmosphere of peace and friendship in Indochina. In its statement, the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries said: the Soviet people are confident that the freedom-loving peoples in Indochina will not allow any imperialist or reactionary force to sow enmity and sabotage the fraternal relations and solidarity between them.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS  
INDOCHINA

WPC EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER SRV-CAMBODIA CONFLICT

LD221415Y Moscow TASS in English 1343 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Helsinki, February 22, TASS--The World Peace Council expresses concern over the continuing armed clashes in the area of the border between Vietnam and Kampuchea, says the statement issued here by the World Peace Council.

The World Peace Council again declares that in the interests of peace and security in Southeast Asia and all over the world, it shall not be allowed that the traditional anti-imperialist solidarity of the peoples of Kampuchea and Vietnam, which strengthened in the period of struggle against the French colonialists and American imperialists in the course of several decades, be undermined. The split in the ranks of the anti-imperialist forces only weakens their common struggle, and imperialism takes full advantage of it.

The World Peace Council hopes that the authorities of Kampuchea will realise the futility of continuing military actions and will give a positive answer to the proposals of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and sit down to the table of negotiations in the interests of the peoples of Kampuchea and Vietnam.

The World Peace Council calls upon all the democratic forces in the world to mobilise support for the proposals on the holding at the earliest date of talks between Kampuchea and Vietnam, which was repeatedly proposed by Vietnam, in the interests of strengthening the common struggle against imperialism, for peace and security in Asia and all over the world, the statement notes.

USSR, SRV SIGN EDUCATIONAL COOPERATION DOCUMENTS

OW140430Y Moscow in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1300 GMT 11 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Dear friends: Documents on Soviet-Vietnamese cooperation in higher and vocational education were signed in Moscow on 10 February in the presence of the SRV ambassador to the Soviet Union. The documents were signed by Comrade Makarov, deputy minister of Soviet higher and secondary specialized education, and Comrade Hoang Xuan Tuy, vice minister of Vietnamese higher and vocational education.

Let's now listen to our station observer Lenzov:

The Soviet school year begins on 1 September. For 27 years, Vietnamese and Soviet youths, both male and female, have resumed their studies at Soviet colleges on that day. Addressing participants at the document-signing ceremony, Comrade Hoang Xuan Tuy stressed:

[Begin Hoang Xuan Tuy recording] Since 1951 Soviet colleges and scientific agencies have trained more than 10,000 college-level scientific, technological and economic cadres, 1,400 college graduates with M.A. degrees and more than 20 scientific doctors for Vietnam. These figures are very meaningful [words indistinct] an extremely valuable gift to the Vietnamese people from the Soviet people. [end recording]

New documents on Soviet-Vietnamese cooperation have been signed. One of these documents deals with the procedures for having Vietnamese youths study in the Soviet Union over the next 3 years. During this period, 1,650 Vietnamese students will be admitted to Soviet colleges and 370 Vietnamese cadres will be accepted as scientific research students; another 130 Vietnamese cadres will receive practical scientific training in the Soviet Union. This document also deals with further cooperation between brotherhood colleges of our two countries: The Moscow and Hanoi construction colleges, the (Kharkov) and Hanoi polytechnic schools, the (Novosibirsk) and Hanoi universities and the Moscow Economics College and the Hanoi Economic Planning College. Cooperation in conducting scientific research and in preparing instruction materials will be increased. Principal professors of these colleges and universities will regularly present lectures at the two countries' colleges and universities.

The second document, also signed on 10 February, deals with increased training of Vietnamese cadres specializing in Russian language and literature. This training will be carried out in both the Soviet Union and Vietnam. Each year the Soviet Union will receive about 50 Vietnamese cadres studying Russian for 5-month and 1-year courses. In addition, over the next 3 years 250 Vietnamese cadres will study Russian through correspondence courses. The Soviet side will provide them with sufficient textbooks and study guides.

The third document regulates the equivalency of scientific degrees obtained in the Soviet Union and Vietnam.

Comrade Makarov, deputy minister of Soviet Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, said: The signed documents certainly will contribute to the consolidation of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Vietnam. We Soviet college cadres are very happy to be able to contribute to the technical training of the SRV cadres. Addressing those attending the signing ceremony, Comrade Hoang Xuan Tuy said:

[Hoang Xuan Tuy--recorded] These three very important documents mark a new development in the cooperation and assistance between Vietnam and the Soviet Union, conducted in a spirit of proletarian internationalism. On behalf of the Vietnamese people and youth, we wish to express our profound gratitude to the Soviet Union for this assistance as well as for its various kinds of assistance in the wars of resistance against the French colonialists and the U.S. imperialists and in the building of our new lifestyle. Under the terms of the three signed documents, the Soviet Union will continue to assist us in training scientific, technological and economic cadres and in developing our higher and vocational education so that we will be able to successfully fulfill the heavy tasks set forth by the fourth VCP Congress.

#### BRIEFS

SOVIET-LAO ECONOMIC AGREEMENT--In Vientiane today an agreement was signed on economic cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Lao People's Democratic Republic. It provides for assistance to Laos in the establishment of a base for the repair of agricultural machinery and for prospecting and mastering of tin deposits. This agreement is viewed in Laos as a most important step in the development of relations of friendship and cooperation between Laos and the Soviet Union. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2030 GMT 17 Feb 78 LD]

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U S S R I N T E R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S M 1  
N O R T H E A S T A S I A

DRAFT TREATY ON USSR-JAPAN COOPERATION PUBLISHED

LD231244Y Moscow TASS in English 1232 GMT 23 Feb 78 LD

["Draft Treaty on Goodneighbourhood and Cooperation Between USSR and Japan"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 23 TASS--IZVESTIYA today publishes a draft treaty on goodneighbourhood and cooperation between the USSR and Japan.

"The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Japan, seeking to promote the consolidation of peace and security in the Far East, in the Pacific basin and throughout the world;

Convinced that peaceful cooperation between both states on the basis of the aims and principles of the United Nations Charter accord with the aspirations of the Soviet and Japanese peoples, the broad interests of international peace;

Guided by the desire fully to overcome the elements of estrangement and distrust in their mutual relations, engendered in the past;

Prompted by solicitude for creating an atmosphere of goodneighbourhood and goodwill between both countries;

Reaffirming their intention to continue talks on the conclusion of a peace treaty;

Desiring to express in contractual form their resolve to create a firm and long-term foundation for the development of all-round cooperation between them, above all, in the political sphere, and also in the sphere of the economy, science, technology and culture;

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Japan regard the maintenance of peace, extension and strengthening of relaxation of tension and strengthening of international security as one of the main aims of their policy.

They express a desire to exert efforts for the consolidation of universal peace on the Asian Continent, in the Pacific basin and throughout the world.

Article 2

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Japan shall settle their disputes exclusively by peaceful means and undertake in their mutual relations to refrain from the threat of force or its use.

The high contracting parties shall develop and strengthen relations of goodneighbourhood and mutually-advantageous cooperation on the basis of peaceful coexistence.

Article 3

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Japan undertake not to allow the use of their territories for any actions, which could prejudice the security of the other party.

Article 4

The high contracting parties undertake to refrain from any actions encouraging any third party to take aggressive actions against either of them.

Article 5

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Japan shall maintain and widen regular contacts and consultations on important international issues concerning the interests of both states through meetings and exchanges of views between their leading statesmen and through diplomatic channels.

Should a situation arise, which, in the opinion of both sides is dangerous for maintaining peace, or if peace is violated, the sides shall immediately contact each other with the aim of exchanging views on the question of what can be done for improving the situation.

Article 6

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Japan declare their determination to continue efforts for ending the arms race, of both nuclear and conventional weapons, and attaining general and complete disarmament under effective international control.

Article 7

Considering trade relations to be an important and necessary element of strengthening bilateral relations and attaching great significance to economic cooperation between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Japan, the parties shall actively promote the growth of such relations, contribute to cooperation between the appropriate organisations and enterprises of both countries and to concluding appropriate agreements and contracts, including long-term ones.

Article 8

Attaching great significance to scientific and technical cooperation between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Japan, the parties will promote in every way possible an expansion of mutually beneficial and all-round cooperation in these fields on the basis of the treaties and agreements, which exist or will be concluded between them.

Article 9

Being interested in the preservation and rational use of biological resources of the world ocean, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Japan shall continue broadening cooperation in this field on the basis of the appropriate agreements and with due regard for the legislation of the parties.

## ARTICLE 10

The high-contracting parties shall encourage the development of relations between government institutions and public organisations in the field of science, arts, education, television, radio and sports, contributing to a mutual enrichment of achievements in these fields, to strengthening the feeling of respect and friendliness of the peoples of those countries for each other.

## ARTICLE 11

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Japan shall strive that the relations and co-operation between them in all the above listed fields and any other fields of mutual interest be built on a durable and long-term basis. With this aim in view, the parties shall establish, where it is deemed advisable, joint commissions, or other joint bodies.

## Article 12

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Japan do not claim and do not recognize anyone's claims to any special rights to advantages in world affairs, including claims to domination in Asia and in the area of the Far East.

## Article 13

This treaty shall not affect the bilateral and multilateral treaties and agreements concluded earlier by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Japan, and is not directed against any third country.

## Article 14

This treaty shall be subject to ratification and enter into force on the day of the exchange of instruments of ratification to be done in the city of.....done at .....on..... in two copies, each in the Russian and Japanese languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Union of Soviet For Japan  
Socialist Republics.

## BRIEFS

JAPANESE BUSINESSMEN--A large group of businessmen from two Japanese associations arrived in Nakhodka 2 days ago to familiarize themselves with prospects for further developing coastal trade. The group will meet with representatives of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade and the all-union Dalintorg export-import office and will familiarize itself with the port city and its enterprises and establishments. The group will visit Khabarovsk after Nakhodka. [Vladivostok Domestic Service in Russian 0935 GMT 15 Feb 78 OW]

## KREMLIN PALACE SCENE OF SOVIET ARMY, NAVY CELEBRATIONS

LD221930Y Moscow TASS in English 1909 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Excerpts] Moscow, February 22, TASS--A jubilee meeting of representatives of the people of Moscow and servicemen of the capital's garrison, dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy, was held today in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses.

The meeting welcomed by stormy and lasting applause the appearance of Leonid Brezhnev, Aleksey Kosygin and other leaders of the CPSU and the Soviet state. Together with them were noted Soviet generals, veterans of the war, representatives of party, soviet and public organizations.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1530 GMT on 22 February adds: "With stormy and prolonged applause those present greeted Comrades Brezhnev, Andropov, Grishin, Kirilenko, Kosygin, Kulakov, Kunayev, Mazurov, Pelshe, Suslov, Ustinov, Aliyev, Demichev, Kuznetsov, Ponomarev, Rashidov, Solomentsev, Chernenko, Dolgikh, Zimyanin, Ryabov and Rusakov, deputy chairmen of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers and members of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet."]

In the presidium was the first secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, President of the Presidium of the Great People's Hural of the Mongolian People's Republic Yumjaagiyn Tsedenbal, and also the general secretary of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party, President of Syria Hafiz al-Asad. Also present were military delegations from other socialist countries--Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, the GDR, the KDP, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, and a military delegation from friendly Finland.

A report "Sixty Years on Guard of the Gains of the Great October" was delivered by Politbureau member of the CPSU CC, defence minister of the USSR, Marshal Dmitriy Ustinov.

Representatives of the people of Moscow and of the Soviet youth conveyed warm congratulations to the Soviet soldiers in connection with the glorious jubilee.

A speech of greetings on behalf of the leaders of the delegations of other socialist armies, was made by Politbureau member of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, minister of national defence of the Polish People's Republic, General of the Army Wojciech Jaruzelski.

To the sounds of martial music, to the applause of the hall, representatives of all the services of the armed forces march into the hall.

Participants in the meeting accepted a letter from the soldiers of the armed forces addressed to the CPSU CC, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers.

The jubilee meeting was followed by a gala concert.

## Brezhnev Reads Message

LD221646Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1408 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Congratulatory message from CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers to all Soviet servicemen read by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, at the Kremlin meeting marking the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces--live]

[Text] Dear comrades: The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers warmly greet and congratulate the warriors of the Soviet Armed Forces, the veterans of the Civil and Great Patriotic Wars, and all who have had the honor of standing in the combat ranks of the defenders of the motherland, on the occasion of this nationwide festival of the people--the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy. [applause]

The Soviet Armed Forces were created by the Communist Party, by Vladimir Ilich Lenin, to defend the revolutionary gains of the great October revolution and the security of the first socialist state in the world. During these 60 years they have traveled along a legendary path and have covered their battle banners with unfading glory. During the Civil War the young army of the republic of the soviets totally destroyed the united forces of internal counterrevolution and foreign intervention. The matchless feat of Soviet warriors on the fronts of the Great Patriotic War will remain a vivid memory for centuries. The Soviet people, warriors of the army and navy, in the fierce fight against German fascism showed infinite devotion to their socialist fatherland, to the cause of the Communist Party. They showed courage and mass heroism and an unswerving will to win. They defended the honor and independence of the motherland and saved mankind from the threat of fascist enslavement. [applause]

The whole heroic history of the Soviet Army and Navy is witness to the fact that the inexhaustible source of their strength and their invincibility was and remains the wise leadership of the Leninist party, its unbreakable unity with the people, the indisputable advantages of the socialist social and state structure, ardent Soviet patriotism and proletarian internationalism. Our army is surrounded by the truly unlimited love and concern of the Soviet people. [applause]

For the fourth decade now our people are living and working under a peaceful sky. The Soviet Union, together with the fraternal socialist countries, is conducting an active and consistent struggle for peace and the security of peoples, for the further relaxation of international tension. No small success has been achieved in this noble cause. There are, however, forces in the world which are active and which are trying to undermine the process of detente and to whip up the arms race, which are creating new kinds of lethal weapons and strengthening aggressive blocs. In these circumstances the party and the Soviet Government will pay constant attention to the strengthening of the country's defense capability and will take care that our glorious armed forces have at their disposal everything they need to fulfill their tasks. [applause]

The essence of our military policy is: everything for effective defense, nothing beyond this. The USSR has never armed itself for the sake of armament; it has never been and never will be the instigator of the arms race. Everything the Soviet people do in the military sphere is done to secure themselves and their socialist friends from attack, to prevent aggression. Today there are grounds for being proud of what has been achieved. [applause]

The Soviet Armed Forces, together with the allied armies, are a reliable guard for the peaceful labor of the Soviet people and the other peoples of the socialist community. In the interests of strengthening the might of the army and navy, Soviet servicemen are called upon to continue to improve their battle skills, persistently to master modern equipment, constantly to raise their level of organization and strictly to fulfill their military oath.

The most important task of the commanders, political organs, party and Komsomol organizations is to train the personnel of units and vessels in the spirit of high ideological conviction and cooperation with the servicemen of fraternal armies, of loyalty to the revolutionary and battle traditions of older generations, selfless devotion to the Soviet homeland. [applause]

The glorious jubilee of the Soviet Army and Navy is being celebrated at a time of the unprecedented blossoming of the material and spiritual forces of our motherland, at a time of a new upsurge of labor and political activity of the Soviet people. A nationwide socialist competition has developed widely in the country for the fulfillment and overfulfillment of the plan for the 10th 5-Year Plan period and the successful implementation of the historic decisions of the 25th party congress. An active part in this is being played by the troops of the armed forces. They are fighting for new achievements in military and political training.

The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers express their firm conviction that the soldiers and sailors, the sergeants and petty officers, ensigns and warrant officers, officers, generals and admirals of the Soviet Army and Navy will honorably discharge their sacred duty to the people and will always be in constant military readiness, guaranteeing an immediate rebuff to any aggressor. [applause]

Glory to the valiant Armed Forces of the USSR. [applause] Long live the people, the builder of communism. [applause] Long live the Communist CPSU, the inspirer and organizer of all our triumphs. [prolonged applause]

#### Jaruzelski Address

LD222025Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1542 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Speech by Wojciech Jaruzelski, Polish minister of national defense, at the Kremlin meeting marking the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces--live, in Russian]

[Text] Dear Soviet comrades, fellow soldiers: I have the great honor on behalf of the personnel and leaders of the delegations present here of the fraternal socialist armies--the Bulgarian People's Army, the Hungarian People's Army, the Vietnamese People's Army, the National People's Army of the GDR, the Korean People's Army, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of the Republic of Cuba, the Mongolian People's Army, the Polish Army, the Czechoslovak People's Army and the Yugoslav People's Army--to convey to the Soviet people and their servicemen the most sincere congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of the glorious 60th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy. [applause]

In your person we greet the army of Great October, the army created by the CPSU and its leader, Vladimir Ilich Lenin. The Soviet Armed Forces were the first military organization of the victorious revolution of the proletariat in the history of mankind. They were a reliable instrument for the defense of the socialist homeland. By its nature, class character and historic predestination, it is a genuine people's army, an army of a new type.

It differs radically from the armies of exploitative states which have served and continue to serve as instruments of class repression and instruments for carrying out an aggressive and predatory policy. All of this is determined by the ideological and political makeup of the Soviet serviceman, his remarkable moral and human qualities. It is precisely for this reason that the Soviet Army has always enjoyed and continues to enjoy the love, respect and support of the conscious working people throughout the world and is so close to the whole of progressive mankind.

The whole heroic path of the Soviet Armed Forces bears witness to the fact that they have fulfilled with honor and continue to fulfill their historic mission in defense of the achievements of socialism. History willed it that no army in the world should have been called upon to shoulder such harsh tests and win such brilliant victories on the fields of battle as did the army of the world's first socialist state. History knows no example of such mass heroism as was displayed by the soldiers of October in the years of the Civil, and later the Great Patriotic War.

We note with gratitude today that throughout the 60 years of its existence, the Soviet Army has invariably acted as a liberating army, an army of friendship and fraternity among the peoples, boundlessly dedicated to its international duty. The peoples of our countries will never forget that it was the Soviet Union and the glorious Soviet Armed Forces which played the main part in the victory over fascist Germany and in the final defeat of imperialist Japan. [applause]

By their historic victories over the enemy they made a decisive contribution to the liberation of many countries of Europe and Asia from the yoke of fascism and other forces of enslavement. Wherever the Soviet soldiers fulfilled their liberating mission, sparing neither their blood nor their lives, the grateful peoples have erected splendid memorials. Today millions of working people, all honest people pay homage to the sacred memory of the heroes who gave their lives. The liberating exploits of the Soviet Army represent a great and unforgettable page of history. They will live forever in the hearts of our peoples. [applause]

Comrades: Friendship has been growing among the peoples and countries of socialism and political, economic and cultural links among them have been developing as a result of the work of the communist and worker parties. This fraternity was born in the common character of our ideas, class interests and aspirations. It is cemented in the blood shed together in battles with the worst enemies of the freedom and independence of the peoples. It was also enriched by the valuable Soviet help given to our people's armies in their construction and development. The military friendship born on the fields of battle will be strengthened and developed in the process of the peaceful, beneficial cooperation of the socialist countries and their armies. We see in this a striking embodiment of the Leninist ideas on the necessity for close military cohesion and unity of efforts of the countries of the victorious proletariat, in their struggle against international imperialism, which remains the main cause of the threat to the peace and independence of the peoples.

Comrades, the basic force and military power of our socialist armies is their being guided by the communist and workers parties and their indissoluble link with the people.

Together with you and all the Soviet people, we share your pride in the fact that the Soviet Armed Forces are a mighty, invincible army, [applause] that, thanks to the constant attention of the Communist Party and the Soviet Government and personally of Marshal of the Soviet Union Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, chairman of the Defense Council of the USSR, they have at their disposal everything necessary to fulfill the most complicated tasks. [applause] They reliably protect the creative labor of the Soviet people, and with their watchful, selfless service make a big contribution to the cause of consolidating peace and international security.

At this remarkable time, we take special pleasure, dear Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, on behalf of the defense ministers and members of the military delegations, in heartily congratulating you on the occasion of being awarded the supreme military Order of Victory. [applause] We are glad that you have been given this high award for your great contribution to the victory of the Soviet people and their armed forces in the Great Patriotic War, for outstanding services in strengthening the defense capability of the Soviet country, for the elaboration and consistent implementation of the Soviet state's policy of peace. [applause]

Comrades, dear friends: Permit me also on this festive day to convey a hearty battle greeting to those celebrating their jubilee, the men of the Soviet Army and Navy, from the personnel of the socialist armies, and to wish them new and great successes in battle training, in strengthening the defense capability of their socialist motherland. [applause]

Today we send our warm congratulations and best wishes to Soviet veterans, former soldiers, commanders and political workers of the Soviet Army, those who participated in the partisan movement, to all those heroes of the front and the rear together with whom many of the soldiers of our armies fought against the common enemy. [applause]

From this high tribune we wish the entire fraternal Soviet people new achievements in the implementation of the majestic tasks of building communism set out by the 25th CPSU Congress. [applause]

Glory to heroic armed forces of the country of the soviets formed by the great Lenin and the CPSU. [applause]

May the friendship and battle collaboration of the peoples and soldiers of our fraternal countries strengthen and develop. [applause]

Long live peace throughout the world. [applause]

#### Armed Forces Letter

LD221956Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1557 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Letter from Soviet Army and Navy personnel to the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers, read by Army General Govorov, commander of the Order of Lenin troops, Moscow Military District, at the Kremlin meeting on the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces--live]

[Text] To the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, the USSR Council of Ministers:

On the noteworthy day of the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy, we, the Soviet servicemen, address to the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers words of filial and heartfelt gratitude for their constant concern for the good of the Soviet people, the strengthening of the might and defense capacity of the socialist fatherland and the military might of the army and navy. [applause]

Our homeland has entered the seventh decade of its heroic history. The 60th anniversary of the Great October was an outstanding event in the life of all progressive mankind. A new Constitution of the USSR was adopted, a Constitution of developed socialism. The decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress are being successfully implemented. We are boundlessly proud to be the defenders of the world's first socialist state of all the people, to be serving in the ranks of the armed forces whose fighting banners are illuminated with the light of the immortal Leninist ideas and are covered with the legendary glory of victories in the struggle for the cause of the Great October Socialist Revolution, for the honor, freedom and independence of the country of the soviets. [applause]

We swear to be loyal to the immortal ideas of the leader of the revolution, the great Lenin, to learn military skill to the best of our ability and to consolidate the defense capacity of our country. [applause]

The workers and peasants of the Red Army and the Red Navy, set up by the Communist Party led by Vladimir Ilich Lenin in the fiery years of the Civil War, inflicted a crushing defeat on the joint forces of foreign military intervention and of internal counter-revolution, and successfully defended the revolutionary gains of the working people. The unparalleled heroic deeds of the Soviet people, of the soldiers of our armed forces, who won historic victory in the Great Patriotic War, will not fade throughout the centuries. [applause]

The heroic deeds of the Soviet people, of the soldiers of the army and navy, accomplished in battles against the enemies of the socialist homeland for the happiness, peace and freedom of the peoples, live on and will live on forever in our hearts and our memory. [applause]

We swear to be worthy of the heroic achievements of the senior generations of defenders of the socialist fatherland and by irreproachable service to increase the battle glory of the Soviet Armed Forces. [applause]

Every serviceman in the army and navy from soldier to marshal, from sailor to admiral, is profoundly aware that the strength and might of the Soviet Army and Navy derives from the leadership of the Communist Party and its Leninist Central Committee. [applause] A shining example for all of us of faithful and untiring service to the party and the people is the great personal contribution made to the strengthening of the armed forces and the defense capability of the homeland by Marshal of the Soviet Union Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the USSR Defense Council. [applause]

The awarding to Comrade Brezhnev, Leonid Ilich, of the supreme military Order of Victory represents recognition of his great contribution to the victory of the Soviet Armed Forces in the Great Patriotic War and of his outstanding services in strengthening the country's defense capability and in developing and consistently implementing the Soviet state's foreign policy of peace which reliably insures the development of the country in peaceful conditions.

We report to the CPSU Central Committee, and to you personally, dear Leonid Ilich, that the task set for the armed forces by the 25th party congress to guard over the peaceful labor of the Soviet people and to be a bulwark of universal peace has become for Soviet servicemen an immutable law of everyday life and of their military and political studies. We vow always to be loyal to the cause of the Leninist party and to be ready to carry out any order from it. [applause]

We have had the great happiness of living in the wonderful time of the building of communism in our country. All of our deeds and thoughts will continue to be subordinated to the great cause of building communism and the defense of its achievements, and our military labor will continue to be devoted to this.

The personnel of the army and navy have wholeheartedly welcomed the letter from the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee about socialist competition in 1978. In the armed forces the competition was initiated under the slogan: Reliably defend the socialist homeland, be in constant battle readiness, persistently master weapons and equipment, improve battle skill. In implementing increased socialist pledges adopted in honor of the glorious anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces, servicemen of the army and navy have achieved new successes in military and political training. There has been an improvement in the field training and the air and naval training of the personnel. There have been improvements in the training results for missile-firing, bomb-dropping, artillery and torpedo firings. The number of those distinguished as excellent, class specialist, excellent member of a subunit, unit and vessel has increased. [applause]

On this solemn day, the 60th anniversary of the Armed Forces of the USSR, we Soviet servicemen, in response to the greetings from the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of the USSR, assure the CPSU, the Leninist Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers that we will continue together with the servicemen of the fraternal socialist countries to vigilantly guard the historical achievements of our peoples. [applause]

We will continue to devote all our strength to raising the efficiency and quality of military and political study, to master persistently modern weapons and new battle equipment, to raise tirelessly our vigilance. [applause]

The Soviet Armed Forces are flesh of the flesh and blood of the blood of the Soviet people. Great is the honor and sacred and honorable is the duty of serving one's people, the heroic people, the creative people, the people creating communism--the bright future of the whole of mankind. [applause]

We vow to be always at constant battle readiness, which guarantees the rapid rebuff of any aggressor, to defend the socialist homeland, the cause of the peace and security of the peoples, sparing neither effort nor life itself. [applause]

Long live our beloved Soviet homeland. [applause]

Long live the great Soviet people, builders of communism. [applause]

Long live the CPSU, the guiding and directing force of Soviet society, inspirer and organizer of all our victories. [applause]

## DEFENSE MINISTER USTINOV ISSUES ORDER OF DAY

LD230046Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0015 GMT 23 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 23 February, TASS--"The Soviet Armed Forces, closely united with the Leninist Party and its Central Committee headed by Leonid Brezhnev, are worthily fulfilling their duty to the people--vigilantly standing guard for the socialist homeland," stresses the order of the day issued by Dmitriy Ustinov, minister of defense of the USSR, to mark the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy.

"The Soviet Union, together with the fraternal socialist countries, is consistently and persistently implementing the Leninist course of foreign policy directed at further deepening and consolidating the relaxation of international tension and at strengthening universal peace and the security of peoples. At the same time, the Communist Party and the Soviet Government are taking into consideration the danger of the continuing arms race in the imperialist states and are taking the necessary measures to maintain the defense potential of the country at the necessary level," the order of the day says.

The defense minister today ordered a salute of 60 artillery salvos to be fired in the USSR capital, in the capitals of the union republics and in the hero-cities.

## ANNIVERSARY MEDALS PRESENTED TO SOVIET LEADERS

LD221622Y Moscow TASS in English 1604 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 22, TASS--Anniversary medals "60 Years of the Armed Forces of the USSR" were presented in the Kremlin today by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of defense of the USSR, Marshal Dmitriy Ustinov to Leonid Brezhnev, Yuriy Andropov, Viktor Grishin, Andrey Gromyko, Andrey Kirilenko, Aleksy Kosygin, Fedor Kulakov, Dirmukhammed Kunayev, Kirill Mazurov, Arvid Pelshe, Mikhail Suslov, Geydar Aliyev, Petr Demichev, Vasily Kuznetsov, Boris Ponomarev, Sharaf Rashidov, Mikhail Solomentsev, Konstantin Chernenko, Ivan Kapitonov, Vladimir Dolgikh, Mikhail Zimyanin, Yakov Ryabov and Konstantin Rusakov.

The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev presented the anniversary medal to Dmitriy Ustinov.

## Other Recipients

LD222222Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1625 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Ustinov, member CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR minister of defense, marshal of the Soviet Union, on the instructions of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, presented "60 Years of the USSR Armed Forces" jubilee medals to deputy USSR ministers of defense and other Soviet military chiefs.

Comrade Ustinov also presented jubilee medals to the leaders of the military delegations from the armies of Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, the GDR, the DPRK, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia.

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V 9

USSR NATIONAL AFFAIRS  
MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

ARMED FORCES DAY MEETINGS HELD IN REPUBLIC CAPITALS

LD222102Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 22 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Festive meetings of representatives of the working people and of soldiers of the Soviet Army devoted to the 60th anniversary of the USSR Armed Forces have taken place in Leningrad and in the following capitals of the union republics: Kiev, Minsk, Alma-Ata, Tbilisi, Baku, Vilnius, Kishinev, Frunze, Dushanbe, Yerevan and Ashkhabad.

Taking part were Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom; Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee; Masharov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, and other republic leaders.

Celebrations in Ukraine

AU231022Y Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 23 Feb 78 AU

[Summary] "On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy, a solemn meeting of Kiev working people's representatives and Kiev garrison soldiers was held yesterday in the Ukrainian Culture Palace." Workers, soldiers, sergeants, officers, generals, Civil War and Great Fatherland War veterans, former partisans and underground fighters, scientists, cultural workers and youths gathered in the festively decorated hall.

"Comrades Shcherbitskiy, Borisenko, Borvin, Vatchenko, Lyashko, Petr Leontiyevich Pogrebnyak, Sokolov, Sologub, Titarenko, Fedorchuk, Gerasimov, Malanchuk and Yakov Petrovich Pogrebnyak were warmly received by the audience and took seats in the presidium along with members of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers, members of Kiev Gorkom and Obkom bureaus; Kiev Gorkom and Obkom secretaries, generals, officers, soldiers, prominent working people from the city and Kievskaya Oblast, scientists and cultural workers. "Botvin, Ukrainian CP Central Committee Politburo member and Kiev Gorkom first secretary, opened the solemn meeting. General Gerasimon, Ukrainian CP Central Committee Politburo candidate member and commander of the troops of the Red Banner Order Kiev Military Okrug, delivered a report on the socialist fatherland's powerful guard."

Representatives of the workers, peasants and intelligentsia also took the floor. A message of greetings was addressed to the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Council of Ministers, and to Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman.

Solemn meetings on the jubilee were also held in Donetsk, Dnepropetrovsk, Lvov and other Ukrainian cities.

On 22 February thousands of Kiev working people gathered at Lenin's monument to pay tribute to the founder of the Communist Party and the Soviet state.

#### SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

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